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**THE BIXBY GENEALOGY**







WILLARD G. BIXBY (13538.551)

CS  
71

•B634  
1914

A GENEALOGY *Gift, Mrs W.H. Somerville*  
OF THE DESCENDANTS OF  
*Sept. 1964*

# JOSEPH BIXBY

1621 - 1701

OF IPSWICH AND BOXFORD  
MASSACHUSETTS

who spell the name Bixby, Bigsby, Byxbee, Bixbee,  
Bigsbee, or Byxbe

AND OF THE

## BIXBY FAMILY IN ENGLAND

DESCENDANTS OF

WALTER BEKESBY

1427

OF THORPE MORIEUX, SUFFOLK

COMPILED BY

WILLARD GOLDTHWAITE BIXBY, S. B. (13538.551)

Assisted by EBEN PUTNAM

NEW YORK CITY  
WILLARD G. BIXBY  
46th St. and 2nd Ave.  
Brooklyn Boro  
1914



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*Emigrant & Shiping*

Your ancestors are:  
Joseph Bixby, the emigrant to America 7-38, Benjamin Bixby 13, page 35-38  
Benjamin Bixby 133, page 60-63, John Bixby 1334, page 130-131



## PREFACE<sup>1</sup>

*When at first I took my pen in hand,  
Thus for to write, I did not understand  
That I at all should make a little book  
In such a mode: nay, I had undertook  
To make another: which, when almost done,  
Before I was aware I this begun.*

—Bunyan's Pilgrim Progress.

The above lines have again and again recurred to me ever since the genealogy began to outgrow the comparatively modest dimensions in which it was at the time I received it, and to approach its present size, and they seem quite appropriate.

This genealogy was started, about 1885, by Rev. Moses H. Bixby, D. D. (13538.27), pastor of the Cranston Street Baptist Church of Providence, R. I., a very large and active church. In addition to the care of this large church he was a trustee of the Baptist Foreign Missionary Society and of Brown University, and it is astonishing to learn that in the midst of his multitudinous duties he found time to gather the materials which formed the nucleus of this genealogy.

In a letter to a cousin, Dr. Bixby relates how, during a summer vacation, out of curiosity, he examined the town and church records at Topsfield, Essex County, Mass. He had heard a tradition that his ancestors had come from Topsfield, but he was amazed at the wealth of material concerning the family which he found there, and what he found fired his ambition to learn more about his ancestry. He devoted to the work all the spare time he could get in summer vacations, and during the remainder of the year carried on, with his own hand, an extensive correspondence with Bixbys of whom he learned. The work rapidly broadened and it was fortunate that Dr. Bixby's son-in-law, Rev. Truman Johnson, M. D., was able to assist. Dr. Johnson continued the correspondence and searches

<sup>1</sup> A preface is usually written after the rest of the book is printed, and is the last part to go to press. Inasmuch as the Bixby Genealogy is to be issued in parts, and as a preface and table of explanations of matters that may be unfamiliar to some readers are urgently needed now, this has been prepared, but with the expectation of substituting therefor a final or amended preface before the sheets of the completed book are sent to the binder.

begun by Dr. Bixby and arranged in genealogical sequence the material already in hand.

The failing health of Dr. Bixby culminated in his death in 1889, and the call of Dr. Johnson to mission work in Burma arrested for a time the rapid progress on the genealogy which had been made during four or five years. Dr. Johnson, however, took the materials with him and during the six weeks' voyage was able to make a type-written copy embodying the facts in his possession. This he put into the hands of Mary (Bixby) Burbank (Mrs. Delancey G.—13476.7-3), of North Adams, Mass., who kept the manuscript and received and answered the correspondence relating to the genealogy.

In 1907 Dr. Johnson returned from Burma on a furlough, occasioned by the serious illness of his only son, stricken with tuberculosis. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson and their son went to La Canada, Cal., hoping that the change of climate would prove beneficial. Having then the time, as he thought, to bring the genealogy up to date and arrange it for publication, he interested Mr. Jotham Bixby (13436.37) and Mr. Llewelyn Bixby (13436.343) of Long Beach, and, during 1907, they contributed what then was considered adequate funds for conducting correspondence and completing the work, which it was estimated would not take longer than one year. It was during this time that Dr. Johnson corresponded with me in the regular course of the work. I felt a desire to assist, and offered to help in the way in which it seemed to me I could be of most service. I remembered hearing Dr. Bixby speak of the difficulty he had in completing the genealogy of the later generations. He said that the earlier ones were not very difficult, because they had all lived in comparatively restricted locations, but, after they began to spread out, a search of records over a wide territory ought to have been made. To avoid this expense he had to rely, to a large extent, upon correspondence to get the facts he needed, and in many cases his efforts failed because he could not get replies to his letters. I thought that Dr. Johnson would have still greater difficulty from this cause as he did not bear the family name "Bixby." On the other hand, the business house with which I am connected, S. M. Bixby & Co., manufacturers of shoe polishes, was well known all over the country, and I thought that requests for information written on the letter heads of the house might bring replies where Dr. Johnson had failed to get them. Dr. Johnson sent me the addresses of a number of

individuals, town clerks, and many other officials to whom he had written for information without getting replies. The success I met with in securing responses astonished him. In order to get in touch with all the Bixbys in the country, I caused more than a thousand directories in the office of the Trow Directory Co., New York City, to be searched, and the names and addresses of Bixbys obtained were sent to Dr. Johnson. I sent blanks to all he could not identify, and this work and what has grown out of it has been largely responsible for the great increase in the information obtained after I took hold of the work.

The death of his son, in the fall of 1907, necessitated Dr. Johnson's return to Burma. The work he had accomplished during the several months spent at La Canada, instead of completing the genealogy, as he had hoped, only served to show how much more there was to be done than he had realized. At Dr. Johnson's earnest request I took charge of the work about the 1st of January, 1908. I was then, as now, actively engaged in business and really had no time to devote to the genealogy except outside of business hours, which I plainly saw was entirely inadequate for the purpose. Through the kindness of Mr. W. K. Bixby (1343L.42) of St. Louis, Mo., and Mr. Henry M. Bixby (13538.55) of Salem, Mass., funds were supplied so that I might hire whatever clerical help could be used to advantage. I was fortunate in getting excellent assistance and the work progressed steadily. I assumed active directions, and to me were necessarily referred the more difficult problems. I also supplied the necessary enthusiasm.

The public records that have been examined are very numerous. The entire vital statistics on record in the state of New Hampshire were placed at my service; practically every town clerk in the state of Vermont has supplied such data as appeared in his records of vital statistics. The vital records of many Massachusetts towns have been published in some form or another. All these were examined. In addition, wherever it seemed probable that further information could be had, the original records of those towns whose records had not been printed were examined. The records of all the towns of western Connecticut have been examined, and those of eastern Connecticut wherever it was thought advisable. Bixby records in Maine and in Rhode Island are comparatively few. Search was made wherever thought necessary. An extensive exami-



nation of records has been made in certain sections of New York state whither Bixbys removed from New England. The migrations to other states have generally been of so late a date that information desired could be obtained from descendants.

It is interesting to note that the work of compiling the genealogy has proved that all the Bixbys in America were descended from a common ancestor, Joseph Bixby of Ipswich, Mass., with the exception of a few small groups of families, whom we feel positive were so descended, and of four families, three of whom settled in Canada and one in Detroit, Mich., who are known to have emigrated from England during the last century, and a few instances of assumption of the name by negroes and Hebrews.

At first it was not intended to attempt to discover the English ancestry of Joseph Bixby. Although he probably came to New England in 1638, the first actual mention of him in our records is found in the bond signed by him and his wife, before their marriage in 1647. It was not thought that the chances of a successful outcome of such a search were such as to warrant the expense, for the only facts by which we could identify him in England were: 1st, his testimony, in 1674, preserved in the court records of Essex County, Mass., at Salem, giving his age as 54 years; 2nd, the probability that he named at least some of his children for his father, mother, brothers, or sisters. At the suggestion of Mr. W. K. Bixby, however, who felt that it would add materially to the interest and completeness of the book, the English research was undertaken shortly after I took charge. Mr. Bixby had some work done on this line in 1901 and 1902. The investigation was practically confined to London. Although the Joseph sought was not found, it was shown that the name Bixby in earlier records was confined almost exclusively to Suffolk and that any further work undertaken should be done there. I had a search made of the wills at Bury St. Edmunds, where those of western Suffolk are recorded; and at Ipswich, where those of eastern Suffolk are recorded; and at Norwich, in Norfolk Co., where are some of the wills from northern Suffolk. I also had a search made of the parish registers of places where Bixbys seemed numerous. The Joseph Bixby sought was not found, although another Joseph Bixby, baptized October 21, 1621, at Ringshall, was found, who seemed a possibility. The names of his father and mother and brothers and sisters, however, were so unlike those of the children

of Joseph Bixby of Ipswich, Mass., that it seemed improbable that he was the man we were seeking. A further search showed that this Joseph Bixby did not leave England, but died there and left a will. One fact of importance brought out by the searches was that Joseph at that time was a very uncommon Christian name among the English Bixbys.

We had now followed, without satisfactory result, the usual proceeding in seeking to locate an emigrant by an examination of wills, and we were for sometime at a loss to know what to do next. It was evident that the baptism of Joseph Bixby must be sought on some parish register, but the facts were that the number of possible parishes ran into the hundreds and the cost of examination of the registers would have entailed an expense of several dollars per parish. This made a wholesale examination of possible parishes out of the question. All printed English records throwing light on Suffolk at the time of the migration to New England were examined, with the idea of locating those parishes in which Bixbys were living.

The next step was to examine various county records to obtain a clew to a probable locality in which the search could be concentrated. These included various forms of tax enrollments, muster rolls, and similar records. The Bishop's parish register transcripts at Bury St. Edmunds, for the Archdeaconry of Sudbury, were examined for the whole period of their existence to 1621. These are returns made from each parish to the Bishop giving the baptisms, marriages, and burials occurring during the year. The returns for all of the parishes throughout the entire archdeaconry for one year are together in a bundle. Unfortunately these returns do not exist for all years nor for all parishes. Incomplete as they were, they seemed almost the last resource. The baptism of Joseph Bixby was not found in the examination of these records, for the reason, probably, that the return for the year 1621 for Waldingfield is missing, but the names of a number of parishes in which Bixby children were being baptized just previous to 1621 were ascertained and a search was instituted at those parishes. At Little Waldingfield, Suffolk, the record of the baptism of Joseph Bixby, the son of George and Anna Bixby, on October 28, 1621, was found, and also records of the baptisms of his brothers and sisters. A careful study of all the facts leaves no question as to this being the baptism of the Joseph Bixby who came to America.

The examination of the various original records had revealed many people by the name of Bixby. It was desired to group them together as well as might be, but especially to ascertain the direct line of ancestry of Joseph Bixby. This required a good deal of persistent effort, but it is not doubted that the Bixbys in England, like the Bixbys in America, are descended from one man, Walter Bekesby, who is first heard of purchasing land in Thorpe Morieux in 1427. One fact, quite different from what was expected, has been learned, and that is that Joseph Bixby who came to America was not descended from the landless peasantry as was at first supposed, but that his father, grandfather, and ancestors for many generations were land owners, which in England has always meant more than has been the case in America.

I wish here to acknowledge the help given me in the preparation of this work, in addition to the financial help already mentioned: first, and foremost, to Mr. Eben Putnam, Wellesley Farms, Mass., whose familiarity with early New England history and with genealogical work in America and England has made it particularly fortunate that his services could be obtained. He has successfully followed many clues as to identity and passed on conflicting information, has edited and prepared the copy sent to the printer, and directed the search in England which has resulted so happily, and I feel that without his assistance the book would have been very much inferior to what it is.

To Mr. J. Gardner Bartlett, I feel under obligations not only because he carried out the chief part of the work spoken of in the third paragraph above and in the local parishes, and discovered the actual entry of the baptism of Joseph Bixby, but because of the intelligent interest he has shown in this work.

My thanks are especially due to that well-known antiquary, Mr. Vincent B. Redstone, of Woodbridge, Suffolk, England, for valuable suggestions and for extensive researches among the more difficult classes of records, especially of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Such records, often faded and nearly illegible, written in the abbreviated Latin of the scribes, abounding in special terms and peculiar meanings, require the attention of a scholar having the unusual attainments Mr. Redstone possesses in addition to an unusual patience and perseverance. In the English section of this work will be found a reproduction of the earliest roll known of the manor



court of Thorpe Morieux. This fourteenth century record will show, more eloquently than I can describe, the difficulties encountered in work of this character.

I also wish to mention Mr. Lothrop Withington, London, England, who examined probate records at Ipswich, Norwich, and Bury St. Edmunds, as well as the parish registers of Thorpe Morieux, and whose reports first showed the section of Suffolk in which the early Bixbys were located, and who has sent many Bixby items from his extensive examinations of English records.

Regarding the search in America, I wish to mention the efficient aid of Mr. D. H. Van Hoosear of Wilton, Conn., whose efforts in seeking lost families and tracing migration in the western parts of Connecticut and the adjoining parts of New York, resulted in important acquisitions to the family history.

In addition to the above I have been constantly in receipt of help from members of the family, who have gone to a good deal of trouble to get information in their own particular line or in their own locality, the names of whom I cannot for lack of space mention here. In the family records, however, where information is recorded, will be noted the names of the persons giving it. It has been impossible to do this in many instances for the reason that it was not Dr. Bixby's practice to keep a record of the source of his information, hence I am unable to give credit in the body of the book to the large number of persons who furnished him with information. I can, however, name two whom I remember hearing him speak of as being particularly active, viz: the late Dr. Armentus B. Bixby (12695.63) of Poultney, Vt., and the late Major A. H. Bixby (12364.91) of Frankestown, N. H., who worked out their own lines complete and helped him solve many problems regarding the ancestry of Bixbys in their neighborhood. To them he felt deeply indebted.

That the genealogy will contain mistakes is only too evident to me. There is scarcely any form of writing where the compiler has to depend so nearly exclusively on information received from others. I have been able to examine personally only very few town, church, and family records; and transcripts from a large number of such records have been sent to me by people without much training in this kind of transcribing. Beside the errors which we know occasionally exist in public records, there is a chance of

error in the copy sent me, and, furthermore, in preparation of the manuscript. There has been an attempt, however, to reduce errors from this source to a minimum, for the printer's copy before type-writing was carefully checked by the original correspondence and the two copies carefully compared. In many instances conflicting information for the same fact has been received. In such cases, the one that seems more likely to be correct has been used, but where it was impossible to determine which one was more likely to be correct both have been inserted. Some readers will doubtless notice errors in their family record, and the writer asks indulgence for such, and also requests that they inform him of them so that they may be noted in a list of corrections.

While the carrying on of this work has at times been a rather burdensome addition to my business and to my other duties, its completion gives me satisfaction, which I trust is pardonable. It is a most unusual thing to prove practically all the widely distributed people of one name in this country to be descended from one emigrant. It is much more rare to find the people of one name in England seemingly descended from a common ancestor. In this respect the book is almost unique. In Dr. Bixby's manuscript there were a large number of important Bixby families whom he could not prove descendants of Joseph Bixby of Ipswich, Mass. All these have been proved to be descended from this same Joseph Bixby. In the course of my work over fifty new groups of Bixby families were found and connected.

Ascertaining the proper place of unplaced Bixbys<sup>1</sup> among the descendants of Joseph Bixby has frequently proved a very difficult task. It is true that there are a few small groups where the connection is not known, but it is not doubted for a moment that it exists. These families have been placed in the appendix. Two or three groups were placed among the descendants of Joseph Bixby, even where the exact position was a little uncertain. In such cases the fact has been noted.

As to the cost of compiling the book, I cannot speak definitely of it before I had charge. Since then, however, the expenditures have been as follows:

<sup>1</sup>That is those whose relationship to known descendants of Joseph Bixby is unknown.

<i>Year</i>	<i>American Work</i>	<i>English Work</i>
1908.....	\$ 1,146.71	.....
1909.....	1,329.06	\$300.00
1910.....	1,152.71	20.37
1911.....	3,619.18	511.91
1912.....	2,553.60	383.04
1913.....	3,662.41	142.98
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total.....	\$13,463.67	\$1,358.30

The above expenditures are for clerical assistance, record searching, reviewing and editing. My own services have been freely given.

The estimated cost of printing is \$5,000. At the present time I have subscriptions for 662 copies at \$7 each, which is not quite enough to pay for printing, but I hope enough additional subscriptions to do so will be forthcoming.

There is one fact that has impressed me while engaged in this work and has also impressed Mr. Putnam in his review of the manuscript, and that is the substantial and honorable character of the family. The early American Bixbys are nearly always found connected with the church, frequently as officers. They were good citizens, taking a lively interest in civil and military affairs, and frequently holding positions of honor and trust both in public and private life. They kept out of the courts so completely that it has been a disappointment (in one sense) to the compiler, for frequently most valuable information regarding family history is found in certain court records.

If, in addition to preserving the history of the family, any of the readers of this genealogy should be impressed with the worthy, honest and God-fearing character of our ancestors, and with the fact that it will take the best efforts of the present generation to keep up the standard already set, and so be spurred on in this regard, I shall feel that my labors in compiling this book, and the money expended on it, have not been in vain.

WILLARD G. BIXBY.

BROOKLYN, NEW YORK CITY, March 1, 1914.



## EXPLANATIONS





## EXPLANATIONS

OF THE SYSTEM USED IN THE BIXBY GENEALOGY AND OF REFERENCES  
THAT MAY NOT BE FAMILIAR TO ALL READERS

### SYSTEM OF NUMBERING

The plan of numbering adopted in this work (American Family) is somewhat unusual. Instead of numbering, as commonly done, each descendant in order, commencing with the progenitor of the family (who would be 1, his first child 2, his third child 4, etc.), the following system has been adopted. Each individual is given a number, or more properly a series of numbers, which shows his place in the family. Thus Joseph Bixby, the founder of the family, is 1. His eldest child is 11 (*not eleven; but one, one*). The next child is 12 (i.e., *one, two; not twelve*). Thus the eldest child of the eldest child is 111 (*one, one, one; not one hundred eleven*). The sixth child of the third child of the second child of the eldest son of the emigrant, would thus have the figures 11236 before his name. The number of digits in the whole number shows, at a glance, the generation from the founder. Thus, if there are four digits in the number, the person belongs to the fourth generation in America or the third generation removed from the founder, or, in other words, he or she is the great grandchild of the progenitor.

Brothers and sisters have all digits in their numbers the same *except the last*. Thus 18261, 18262, and 18269 would be brothers, or sisters, or brothers and sisters. Own cousins have all digits in their numbers the same *except the last two*.

The order of record is in the order of seniority in birth. In each generation the descendants of the eldest child are first given, then of the next eldest, and so on.

The wife takes the number of her husband, and the husband of his wife, as the case may be.

The lists of children will be seen to be numbered from 1 onwards. To get the number of any child, add to the figure preceding his name in the list of his father's children the whole series of figures which appear at the head of his father's or mother's record.

Where additional information in the following generation is to be found concerning a person, as in the case of a child named Bixby who marries and has children, a double figure precedes the name of the child, thus 1-1, but this repetition of the figure does not appear in the individual number given that person. Thus if John, the first child of Andrew (12345), has a family, before his name will be found 1-1. His family record is found in the next generation, under 123451.

As the repetition of double figures 10, 11, 12, 13, etc., is impossible without destroying the possibility of having the number of digits in the family designation tell the generation, the simple expedient of substituting the letters, J, K, L, M, N, O, etc., has been followed.

Thus the tenth child of 123 appears as 123J.

Whenever the letter O appears in a number it should be read as o, not as cypher. Thus 12345O is the fifteenth child of 12345. Long numbers, for the purpose of clearness, are divided by a period put between the fifth and sixth figures: thus 12345.O not 12345O.

For the purpose of more definitely designating members of the family who have not family records of their own, the number they would bear following out the above mentioned plan is used, but the family record upon which they will be found is shown by that part preceding the dash in the number. Thus 1172-4 is the fourth child of 1172 but is found on family record 1172. 1172-49 is the ninth child of the fourth child of 1172 and is on family record 1172.

#### ARRANGEMENT

The arrangement adopted has been to give a family record for each person named Bixby who married and had descendants. The descendants of Bixby women who married and of course bore other names than Bixby are found arranged under the Bixby ancestor. In a very few instances, where strict adherence to the above rules would have been at the expense of clear arrangement, an exception has been made.

#### THE BIXBY MANUSCRIPT

Certain references will be found in the following pages to the "Bixby Manuscript." This is the typewritten manuscript embodying all information he then had, which Dr. Johnson made on the voyage to Burma about 1899. These references are to statements



which have not been verified by discovery of the sources of information to which Dr. Bixby and Dr. Johnson had access in compiling their account of the family.

Dr. Bixby commenced gathering information many years ago, and in many instances appears to have had access to family and public records which today do not exist. In the cases of some dates evidently taken from town or parish records, the explanation is simple, for today the originals of those records show that much has been worn or lost or otherwise made illegible. As Dr. Bixby and Dr. Johnson, who revised and added much to Dr. Bixby's work, were extremely accurate and conscientious, and as their copies of records, so far as they have been compared with the original sources, have been found nearly always correct, little hesitancy has been experienced in accepting their statements of facts.

#### AMERICAN COLONIAL MONEY

The standards of money values in the American colonies were fixed by the local legislatures, but the actual value of the current money was fixed by the amount of silver which the local currency could purchase.

Thus as early as 1652, when Massachusetts established a mint, the Massachusetts pound was actually worth but two thirds of the pound sterling. Very little English money circulated in the colonies. Hard money of any kind was scarce, being either hoarded or exported to pay foreign merchants. Such as was used was chiefly of Spanish or Portuguese mintage. Massachusetts early passed a law forbidding the exportation of metallic money, in a vain attempt to keep silver, which was the chief standard of value, in the colony.

The pound mentioned in deeds and other transactions was, therefore, not the pound sterling, but the colonial pound. The pound sterling was divided into twenty shillings, and so was the colonial pound. A piece of eight, a Spanish coin, known also as the dollar, and which was in value about equal to our present dollar, was worth 4 shillings, 6 pence in England, 6 shillings in Massachusetts and Virginia, and 8 shillings in New York. The York shilling of  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents and the New England shilling of  $16\frac{2}{3}$  cents are familiar to many persons of the present day, just as the use of the term "bit" is now so common in the Far West. The bit is one eighth of a piece of eight, and its present valuation is that of a York shilling.

The depreciation of the bills of credit issued by the Colonial governments led eventually to the designation of old and new tenor, hence the letters O. T. and N. T. which sometimes occur in valuations. In 1737 the colony of Massachusetts fixed the rate of exchange between Old Tenor and New Tenor as one to three, and later as one to four. When the United States constitution was adopted and it became necessary to retire all of the outstanding colonial bills, the various states fixed a rate at which they would redeem their issues. Massachusetts redeemed her money at \$3.33 to the pound, and New York at \$2.50 to the pound.

### EARLY AMERICAN PUBLIC RECORDS

That it is possible for Americans to establish their descent from remote ancestors, and to identify those ancestors in so many ways, is due to the remarkable system of records so long maintained; to the close association of persons in town and church affairs and in parish organizations; to the generous treatment by state or nation of those who have served their country; as well as the inborn desire common to our people to perpetuate in some measure an orderly record of their own family. The almost universal distribution of pensions, awarded by reason of military service, has placed upon record proofs of identity of those claiming them under Acts of Congress, and the long series of Treasury accounts enables a pensioner to be traced throughout his or her life. The privilege of homesteading, either general or under bounty land warrants, has provided another means of tracing the residence of many persons.

The local records, those of towns, of births, marriages, deaths, and of intentions of marriages; records of tax assessors for town or district; parish records, as distinct from town and church records, often supplying details nowhere else obtainable; church records of baptism, of burial, marriage, admission to and dismissal from the church, acknowledgment of church relations so universal throughout New England and those parts influenced by New England; county and district records, covering the law courts, the transfers of lands (in some states a matter of town record), the settlement of estates of deceased persons, all supply material for the life history of many individuals, who lived so quietly and unobtrusively that no one would be more surprised than they to learn how much could

be discovered concerning their affairs after the lapse of many decades and even centuries.

One of the first needs of the community was to preserve the records of the grants of lands to individuals and subsequent transfers. This led to the registration of titles in public offices, an improvement over the English practice. Courts of probate were also established. Laws were passed requiring the registration of births, marriages and deaths. The churches kept records of their membership and of the baptisms performed by the pastors, and in some cases of burials.

All males between the ages of sixteen and sixty were liable to military duty, and were regularly enrolled and received military instruction, and the enrollments have been preserved to a greater or less extent.

#### MILITARY SERVICE IN THE AMERICAN COLONIES

During the wars with the Indians military forces were raised by calling for volunteers from the militia companies and by drafting men from those organizations, which were always in readiness to respond to orders for active service.

Train bands, smaller bodies than the whole militia, corresponded in a great measure to our present volunteer militia or national guard. When called into active service the term of engagement was short, usually for a campaign which had been planned to last from a few days to a few months. In later times, during the French wars, the provincial troops formed part of the English army operating in America, and the enlistments were in regular provincial regiments raised for the campaign. The men were dismissed in the late fall, except such as re-enlisted for special service, as for garrison duty in Nova Scotia. A guard was permanently maintained at the Castle in Boston Harbor, and provincial forces were maintained in various garrisons along the frontier, but in all cases these enlistments were for short periods, though the men frequently re-engaged. The youth of the country very generally responded upon any call for troops, and the number of boys under eighteen years who were in active service in times when a knowledge of woodcraft and the ways of Indian warfare was required, is astonishing. It is estimated that, after the close of the French wars prior to the Revolution, every third man, at least, had seen active service against an

enemy. Under Thomas Bixby (123), page 52, will be found considerable information regarding the military system in vogue at that time.

#### UNITED STATES PENSIONS AND LAND GRANTS

The first national pension act provided for small payments to soldiers who had served in the Continental army, and who were in indigent circumstances, and had neither property or kin to support them. The number of pensions granted under the Act of 1819 was comparatively small, and of these a great many were withdrawn after a brief period of payment, and withheld until the pensioner filed schedules of property.

A more liberal policy was soon adopted, and any veteran of the War, who had served the required length of time, in a force called into being and acting under Continental Congress, was granted a pension, regardless of his financial condition. The highways and byways were searched by pension agents to find persons who were eligible, and many applications, made at the suggestion of these agents, were rejected for lack of proof or because the service performed was in militia organizations called out for home defence, or for some purpose authorized solely by some particular colony. Service against the Indians following the Treaty of Peace, important and arduous as it was, also was rejected, as not being of the Revolution. Some States, especially Virginia, pensioned their own citizens, but these pensions had to be given up if the recipient was later placed upon the national roll.

With the pension applications are usually to be found extensive declarations of service, affidavits of persons who knew the applicant while in the army, discharges, commissions, passes, family records, copies of marriage records, and frequently leaves torn from bibles, on which were written the family records.

Service in the War of 1812, in the Indian Wars, and the Mexican War, also resulted in increase of the pension roll, but from various causes the evidence filed in such cases is much less in amount and value.

After the Mexican War military land bounties of 160 acres were granted to those who had participated. In 1850 forty acres were granted to those who had served in the Revolution. In 1855 this bounty was increased to 160 acres, and those who had taken their



40-acre warrants were enabled to take out warrants for 120 acres more. These warrants were transferable. The majority of the Revolutionary soldiers had passed away, and the issue of bounty land warrants is chiefly to men who had served in the War of 1812 and later wars. As the rolls of military organizations called into service temporarily are very incomplete, the land bounty warrants are especially valuable.

#### EARLY NEW ENGLAND SETTLEMENTS

A most interesting and instructive chapter might have been written on the early settlement of New England, but as the reader of the genealogy is concerned with so much of it only as affects the Bixby family, such a chapter has not been inserted. In the chapter on the Migrations of the Bixby Family, the part played by the Bixbys in the development of New England and the rest of the United States has been shown. This gives the reader a good idea of the history of the settlement of the northern United States.

For better understanding the locations of the homes of the early Bixbys, a map of the southern part of the New England States has been inserted, which shows only those towns in which lived the first four generations of the Bixby family in America, and against the name of each town is the figure 1, 2, 3 or 4. These figures show the number of the generation of the first Bixby who lived there, that is, whether he belonged to the first, second, third or fourth generation. Joseph Bixby (1), the only member of the first generation, lived first at Ipswich, Mass., on the coast and later moved up the Ipswich River (which is too small to be shown on the map) to Boxford. The second generation, his children, did not go far, and spent their lives in Boxford and in the adjoining towns of Topsfield and Andover. The third generation, however, his grandchildren, went a considerable distance from their birthplaces to find homes, in some instances over 200 miles. The fourth generation generally did not go far away from the territory peopled by the third. The map shown opposite page xx shows the extent of the distribution of the Bixby family in America, up to the close of the Revolutionary War.









## INTRODUCTION



# THE BIXBY GENEALOGY

## INTRODUCTION

The origin of the name "Bixby" is unknown, although much time, money and labor have been expended in attempting to ascertain it. To the superficial student of nomenclature the origin of the name would appear both simple and evident.

It was thought at one time to have been of Danish origin, from "Bix" meaning "Box" and "by" meaning "town," and to have been a place-name<sup>1</sup> meaning the "town by the box tree or near the box trees." The above statement appeared plausible and the fact that the name probably originated in Suffolk or Norfolk, England, where the Danes settled in large numbers, seemed to strengthen the supposition.

Our careful study of the early Bixby records in England, however, not only has failed to corroborate this theory, but has actually disproved it. About 1500 *Bekelsby* appears to have been used interchangeably with *Bixby*. The earliest form of the name so far discovered is *Bekesby*. It was so spelled in 1427, and probably pronounced much as pronounced today. This study, however, of which the results are given more fully in the English section, while showing quite clearly the derivation of the similar names Bigby, Bixley, and Bixton, has not revealed how and why the name was assumed by Walter Bekesby, the first man to bear the name, so far as known, although a very plausible theory is presented.

The name is first met with in Thorpe Morieux, a small parish and township in Western Suffolk, where, in 1427, we find Walter

<sup>1</sup> That is, a family name originally taken from the name of a place. At one time people had but one name. Thus in the Bible we have Adam, Eve, Abraham, Moses, Elijah, John, James, etc., who seem to have had no surnames whatever. After a time the number of people of the same name caused confusion, and additional names, surnames, were gradually taken to better distinguish people of the same name; the surname being taken from a man's trade, his residence, some personal characteristic, etc., as John the Smith, John of Bixton, John the Short, etc. At first these surnames were infrequently used and were not hereditary, that is a son would not necessarily have the same surname as his father, but with their increasing use, they became hereditary or family names, and moreover became contracted for the sake of brevity. Thus John the Smith became John Smith, John of Bixton became John Bixton, John the Short became John Short, etc. Bixton the second name mentioned above is a place-name, the name of a small hamlet in Norfolk, England, and the first man to adopt the surname of Bixton doubtless lived there.

Bekesby buying land. The next mention of the name is in 1459 in the will at Bury St. Edmunds of Walter Bekysby<sup>1</sup> of Thorpe Morieux, whom we do not doubt is the same man who was found 32 years before buying land there. His will mentions two sons, Robert and Nicholas, names perpetuated in later generations of Bixbys. The early records are too fragmentary to prove that all persons bearing the name are descendants of Walter, or possibly his father, who yet remains undiscovered, yet the increase in the territory in which they are found, as we reach more modern times, is such as would apparently have been the case had all the people bearing the name Bixby been descended from one man living in 1427, and it is not doubted that such is the case.

The Bixbys in Thorpe Morieux were evidently among the more important residents there and were well-to-do yeomen farmers, owning land as freehold as well as copyhold estates. The scanty and fragmentary records of the period make it difficult to prove such an uninterrupted line of ancestry for the family in England, as can be done for the family in America. There seems to be no question, however, but that the parents and grandparents of Joseph Bixby, the emigrant to New England, were land owners and persons of worth in their village communities. A full discussion of this will be found in the English section.

Joseph Bixby is not the only Bixby who has been mentioned among the first settlers of America. Savage in his *Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England*, Vol. I, p. 188, mentions Joseph Bixby, the emigrant, a number of Bixbys whom I can identify as his descendants, and the following:

"Nathaniel Bixby, Ipswich 1637, of wh. Mr. Felt can tell me no more,

Thomas Bixby, Salem 1636; and equal. short is the tale for him. Very freq. is the name in our early rec. Bigsbee, as it was pronounc. and not rarely is heard in our day.

A wid. Mary B. was receiv. into Boston Ch. 20 June, 1640; but of wh. she had been w. is not found."

A very careful search has been made for information about these three Bixbys, and it is believed that the first two never existed and that Mary was not a near relative to Joseph and that she left

<sup>1</sup> Y and E are interchangeable. Therefore Bekesby = Bekysby.

no male descendants. Among the unplaced Bixbys will be found all that has been ascertained about them.

As to the reasons which caused Joseph Bixby to come to America we can only surmise. He would seem to have been the eldest son. His name is not, however, found on the muster roll of Babergh Hundred in 1638, which should have contained the names of all able-bodied men in that district between the ages of 16 and 60 years. His father's name appears, but his does not. The supposition is that he was not in England at that time. We do know, however, that in 1647 he was in Ipswich, Mass., for on Oct. 15th of that year he signed a bond with Mrs. Sarah Heard, his intended wife, for the support and education of two children by her former husband.

After this first mention <sup>1</sup> of him, references to him and his descendants in New England are numerous and ample. This does not mean that we are not in many instances lacking information which it would be desirable to have. The local records of Massachusetts have been better preserved and are more complete from early times than those of any other of the colonies established in America, and in many respects exceed in detail the records of any other English speaking or European country (with the possible exception of those in Holland), especially for the seventeenth century, and it is due to the excellent character of these records that it has been possible by careful, painstaking work to construct the very complete history of the earlier descendants of Joseph Bixby of Ipswich, Mass., which follows.

<sup>1</sup> This document is on file at Salem, Mass., which is the county seat of Essex County, in which Ipswich is located. A facsimile is shown opposite page 8.



## **FIRST GENERATION**





# JOSEPH BIXBY AND HIS DESCENDANTS

## FIRST GENERATION

### I

I. JOSEPH BIXBY (*George*), of Ipswich and later of Boxford, Essex Co., Mass., was born in 1620 or 1621, probably at Little Waldingfield, Suffolk, England. In 1674, in a deposition, he stated his age as fifty four years.<sup>1</sup> He was baptized 28 Oct., 1621, at Little Waldingfield, son of George and Ann (Cole) Bixby, or as the name appears on the parish register Bixbee. He died 19 April, 1701, at Boxford. The entry in the town record states, "Sargent Joseph Bixbee of Boxford desecad the 19 Aprill 17—." The year is illegible, but by the inventory of his estate it appears that the year of his death was 1701.<sup>2</sup> He was thus approximately aged eighty years at his death. The date of his coming to New England is not known. As his name does not appear on the muster roll of Babergh Hundred, Suffolk, in 1638, which should have embraced all able bodied males between the ages of sixteen and sixty, and on which his father's name appears, it is likely he had already gone to New England.

The earliest mention of Joseph Bixby so far discovered in New England occurs at the time of his marriage. He was then of Ipswich,<sup>3</sup> and, with his intended wife, the widow SARAH HEARD,<sup>4</sup> also

<sup>1</sup> Essex County Court files, 21: 140.

<sup>2</sup> The year in the original document is not clearly written, but appears to be 1701. The day of month there given would be read as 17th rather than 19th, but here we have the town record to guide us.

<sup>3</sup> Two views of Ipswich at the present time are shown opposite page 14.

<sup>4</sup> There is no record of marriages at Ipswich of so early a date as 1647. Sarah, wife of Joseph Bixby, was daughter of John Wyatt, who was of Ipswich in 1639. In 1647, Wyatt's wife seems to have been living in England, and to have had a right to lands in Assington, Suffolk. Sarah married Luke Heard, a linen weaver, who lived in Newbury, in Salisbury, and finally in Ipswich where he died in 1647. His nuncupative will was allowed 28 Sept., 1647. Luke Heard was probably son of Edmund Herd of Claxton, England, linen weaver, whose will was dated 20 Nov., 1626, and was proved the 4th December following. It was deposited at Norwich and is printed in Waters' *Gleanings*, p. 1357. Luke and Sarah Heard had three children: John Heard, born and died in 1643. John Heard, born 6 March, 1644-5; died in 1696, at Andover, unmarried. Edmund Heard, who remained in Ipswich, married Elizabeth Warner in 1672, and had six children. Edmund's son gave to his son, Nathaniel, a bible, printed in 1599, which in 1880 was in possession of a descendant, John T. Heard of Boston. (*Ipswich Antiquarian Papers*, No. 11.) On the 23 Feb., 1654, Sarah Bigsbie, late wife of Luke Heard, confirms the sale by him in 1645 of a dwelling house in Salisbury. (*Norfolk County Court records*.) Mary Wyatt, another daughter of John Wyatt, became wife of Henry

of Ipswich, executed a marriage contract.<sup>1</sup> This document follows:

*Marriage Contract*

Bee it hereby knowne unto all y<sup>t</sup> wee Joseph Bigsby of Ipsw<sup>ch</sup>, husbandman, & Sarah Herde widow doe acknowledge o<sup>r</sup>selves bound to y<sup>e</sup> Co<sup>r</sup>t of Ipsw<sup>ch</sup> in thirty pounds to be paid to the said Co<sup>r</sup>t, and hereunto we bind ourselves our heires, and exequeters by these present.

Sealed with our seales and delivered the 15 day of the 10<sup>th</sup> moneth A. D. 1647

MARGRET ROGERS

JOHN ROGERS

JOSEPH BEXBYE seal

The marke of

SARAH 2 HEARD seal

The condition of this obligation is such, yt if the above bounden Joseph Bigsby, Sarah Hearde, (in case they proceed together in marriage intended) if they or either of them shall doe, or cause to bee done these things following:

1. That the two children of the said widow, w<sup>ch</sup> were left unto her by her late husband Luke Hearde, of Ipsw<sup>ch</sup>, [Linnen] weaver, be well brought up, and due meanes be used to teach them to read, and write well as soone as they are cappable.

2. That at the age of thirteen yeares at the furthest they be put forth to be apprentices in such trades as M<sup>r</sup> Nathaniel Rogers their Grandfather Wyat, and Ensigne Howlet in writing under their hand, or any two of them in like manner, shall advise unto and the children like of.

3. That unto the said children be paid at the age of one, and twenty yeares fifteen pound given them by will of their father, viz, ten pound to the elder at his time of one and twenty yeares and five pounds to the younger when he shall bee at the like age, also that the bookes bequeathed them by their father be given them by æquall division according to his will.

Kimball. The will of John Wyatt of Ipswich dated 23 Nov., 1665, was proved 15 Jan., 1665-6. To his wife he gave "the use of the room we now lye in," the cellar under it and the rooms above it. He also named his three daughters, Mary, Sarah and Dorcas, and his grandson, John Kimball. The last named lived with his grandfather, and to him was devised the dwelling house, cattle, etc. From the inventory we learn that the widow, Mary, was evidently a second wife.

<sup>1</sup> This document is found in Essex County Court files at Salem, Mass., 1:95. A facsimile is shown opposite.

Be it hereby known unto all y<sup>e</sup> an Joseph Bigsby of  
Ipswich husbandman, & Sarah Herde widow (or acknowledged  
sisters bount to y<sup>e</sup> Court of Ipswich in the thirty years to be  
paid to the said Court, and hereunto we bind ourselves our  
heirs, and exequeters by this present

Sealed with our seals, and signatures  
the 15 day of the 10<sup>th</sup> month.  
A. D. 1647.

Joseph Bigsby

Margret Rogers

Sarah Rogers

Witness of  
Sarah & Herde

The condition of this obligation is such, y<sup>t</sup> if the above bound  
den - Joseph Bigsby, Sarah Herde, (in case they  
proceed together in marriage intended) if they or ei-  
ther of them shall die, or come to her death before dying  
following. 1. That the two children of the said widows  
viz. Robert & Anne be by the said husband & wife  
Herde, & Joseph the said widows be well brought  
up, and due means be used, to teach them  
both as they are capable. 2. That at the age of their  
teen years at the furthest they be put forth to be ap-  
prenticed in sure trades as Mr Nathaniel Rogers  
their Grandfather, Nath. and Insigne Nowlet  
in writing under their hand, or any two of them in  
like manner shall advise unto. 3. That unto the said  
children be paid at the age of one, and twenty years  
fifteen pound given them by will of their father, viz.  
ten pound to the elder at the time of one and twenty years  
and five pound to the younger when he shall be at the  
like age. Also that the bequest be made to them by will  
shall be given them by equal division according to  
the will. 4. That five pounds more be paid to the eld-  
er (if living) or sister of them, at their will, and as soon  
from as they shall see cause to divide it in even, or un-  
equal portions to them, or to give the whole to the youn-  
ger in case the elder be better provided for.

t. That the said Joseph, and Sarah, shall do, or  
 be done any sure, surety or oath, at the Court of  
 said the next to require upon the motion of the  
 wife for the securing of the forementioned du-  
 tilien ab with ab for the freeing of the said  
 and Sarah from any entanglements on the re-  
 part by reason of the execution of, or other  
 from hence arising beside the direct and true  
 and intent of the conditions. 6. That re-  
 is a portion of land in Springfield in Suffolk in  
 the said the wife of the said Sarah of the  
 of her mother the said mother is not certain  
 to us) if the said land be not entailed, then the  
 wife shall not claim any title by reason of  
 marriage with the said Sarah but the said  
 shall have the whole and sole power to sell  
 both for use, and for gift of it when and so  
 shall think meet. That the said wife ob-  
 tain the said and of none other, of her right  
 and her of power.

Margaret Rogers  
 John Rogers.

Joseph 234  
 The mark of  
 Sarah & He.



4. That five pounds more bee paid to the children of the said Sarah (if living) or either of them, at her will, and discretion as shee shall see cause to divide it in even, or unæquall portions to them, or to give the whole to the younger, in case the elder be better provided for.

5. That the said Joseph and Sarah shall doe, or admit to bee done any such further acts, as the Court of Ipswich shall see meet to require upon the motion of the said advisers for the securing of the forementioned dues to the children, as well as for the freing of the said Joseph and Sarah from any entanglements on the childrens part by reason of her exequetrixship, or otherwise from hence arising, besides the direct, and true meaning and intent of these conditions.

6. That whereas, there is a portion of land in Asington in Suffolke in England, w<sup>th</sup> shall bee the right of the said Sarah after the decease of her mother (the teno<sup>r</sup> whereof is not certainly known to us) if the said land bee not entailed, then the said Joseph shall not claime any title thereunto by virtue of marriage w<sup>th</sup> the said Sarah, but the said Sarah shall have the whole, and sole power to dispose [of it,] both the use, and the gift of it when, and to whom she shall thinke meet.

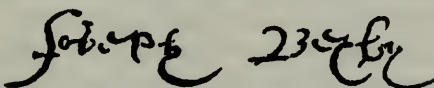
That then this obligation shall bee void and of none effect, otherwise to stand and bee of force.

MARGARET ROGERS  
JOHN ROGERS

JOSEPH BEXBY <sup>1</sup>  
The marke of  
SARAH 2 HEARD

This projected marriage took place, probably either the same day the bond was executed or within a few days thereafter.

The same month Nathaniel Rogers and John Wyatt represented to the Court that Joseph Bixby "is departed this Jurisdiction and his estate is so weakened" that they feared the Heard children might be disappointed in their legacies. They further declared that Bixby had given no notice of when he might return, and that Sarah Heard *alias* Bixby had lands in Assington, Suffolk County,

<sup>1</sup> 

[Facsimile of signature.]

England, which she was to receive after her mother's death if they were not entailed. The Court ordered that Joseph Bixby's estate be attached to the amount of the legacies.

Whither Joseph Bixby had departed after his marriage does not appear, and no subsequent proceedings were taken. It may be that he revisited England to secure his wife's estate, but be that as it may, he was back in Ipswich in December, 1648, and became one of the subscribers to the agreement made on the 19th of that month by which "the Inhabitants of this Towne have engaged themselves to pay yearly on the 10th day of December, unto Major Denison, soe long as he shall be their leader, the sum of twenty four pounds, seven shillings, in way of Gratuity to encourage him in his military helpfulness unto them." One hundred and sixty one male inhabitants signed the agreement, few subscribing more than "Joseph Bigsby," who promised four shillings.

Although an inhabitant, he does not appear to have been a township proprietor or commoner.

In May, 1658, he signs a petition to the General Court, with other inhabitants of Ipswich, asking for an explanation of the law relating to non-freemen, stating that the signers, although having taken the oath of allegiance, were not freemen. This petition follows:

"To the Honored Generall Court at Boston, The humble petition of severall the inhabitants of Ipswich—Respectively Declareing Wheras not long since there hath bene some differances in Apprehention amongst our Townesmen and neighbours in a Towne meeting about three months agoe, wher the power of such the inhabitants as had taken the oath of fidelity was questioned: in Reference to their voating in Towne afaires, ourselves being such that have taken the oath of fidelity. There was a law that is in the old booke page 51 aleaged in our Towne meeting, where it is said that it may be lawfull for the freemen of each Towneshipp to make choice of such Inhabitants as have taken the oath: to be Jurymen & to have their voate in the choice of selectmen, Assessment of rates, & other prudentials: wherupon the yearely busines of the meeting was deferred untill the Generall Court might have opertunity to explain this verited Law. (the which we humbly conceive if wee should take it in such a Sense as to prohibbit those men from Acting: that are elsewhere authorized by law to act in Towne afaires: we should misse

the true meaneing of it.) for Looking upon the preface to the said Law fore going & ye previso following; we understand it to be so far from contradicting any other as that we apprehend the true meaning is to improve such as are of usefull parts (though non freemen into offices in Towne busines) else we humbly Crave under the favour of the honored Court, how are they said to [be] improved to publike use or how are the afares of the Commonwealth the easier Caried on. as also of the proviso following, that the major parts of such Companies shalbe freemen, If the honored Court had not therby truly intended that the minor part might be of others: we therefore humbly Conceive that according to the law in the same booke & page above written that we have power & liberty to act in Towne afares, Also we find in divers places of the ould booke of lawes; that the freemen and others Authorized by law of each Towneshipp shall have power to act, (not the freemen & others only Aproved of by them) Besides the alowed practice throughout this Jurisdiction doth declare to all men, that the laws in reference to the matter in question, are understood in th same sence as we have held forth as we Conceive. upon these & the like grounds together with the Conscience of our oath by which we are bound truly to endeavor to maintaine & preserse all the liberties & priviledges of this government, (amongst others we lookeing upon this to be one.) we humbly conceive that we can doe no less (the question being risen amongst us,) than present our requests in way of petition as followeth. that yourselves will be pleased serviceably to Consider whether such as have taken the oath of fidelity have powre to ————— according to the laws established, or whether the freemen of each Townshipp have powre to prohibbit all or any others as they shall see Cause unto which we most humbly request that you will be pleased to give your Cordiall Answer, we not questioning your faithfullnes & prudence by Gods Asistance to discerne betweene Truth & Error & to doe accordingly. for our owne parte we sollemnely professe it is not victory but truth that we desire, nor any blemish to such as differ in apreheension from us, nor Strife & Contention with our neighbours, but love & ——— that the God of (peace?) may be with us & dwell amongst us. So humbly desiring your earnest supplications to God for the peace of Ipswich & the returne of Gods favour & presence to us, we shall desire to submit ourselves with our pore petition to the honored Court &



Remaine in all Lyalty as abedient subjects to this Gouvernment  
& ever desire to pray for your happines and welfare.

May the 17th, 1658.

Daniell Epps	Abraham Fitt	Henry Kingsbury
William White	Roburt Kinsman	William Gutterson
John Browne	Thomas Averell	William Norton
James Chute	(crease clouds this name:	Will. Buckly
Thomas Newman	possibly it should read	Richard Wattles
Josaph Bexby <sup>1</sup>	J—— Colbe)	Thomas Rowel
Ralfe Dix	Job Bishop	Robert Collins
Henry —— <sup>2</sup>	Nathaniel Emerson	Samuel Varnam
Samuel Eyers	Samuel Ingalls	Tho. Louell
William Averell	John Chote	Francis Jurden
Esaiah Wood	John Andrewes	Samuel Pod
Richard Nicholls	William Cogswell	

Endorsed at bottom:

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(first line gone)  
would be pleased to give answer to this petition in the first place.  
22: 3d, 1658. WILLIAM TORREY, *Cleric*.

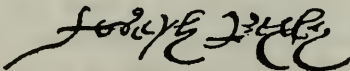
In answer to this petition the Court declares yt ye freemen within  
Theire severall Townes have herewith ye power according to the  
last lawe or order title Towneships to make choice of such Inhabi-  
tants yt have taken the oath of fidellitye to be Jurymen & to have  
theire votes in the choice of selectmen & where no Selectmen are to  
have theire votes in ordering of schooles, hearding of catle laying  
out highwayes & distributing of lands yt wh necessarily imply the  
said Freemen have power by virtue of the said lawe to restraine  
some upon just Cawse. The magistrates have past this with re-  
ference to the Consent of theire brethren the deputies heereto.

9 June 1658

EDWARD RAWSON, *Secretary*.

The deputies Concurr with our Honored magistrates herein yet  
conceive the pet. is not fully answered.

WILLIAM TORREY, *Cleric*.

<sup>1</sup> 

[Facsimile of signature.]

<sup>2</sup> The second, third, and fourth letters of this name are *one*. The final letter appears to be an *r*; the first letter may be L or C.

Fore explanation & emendacon of two Lawes in the printed book tytle Towneshipp relating to the liberty of such as have taken the oath of Fidelity to vote in Towne affaires wich seeme not well to consist together the latter also repealing the former, & finding also inconvenience in the — of that have therefore ordered & be it hereby ordered & enacted that for Tyne to come all English men that are settled inhabitants & Howse holders in any Towne of the age of 24 yeares & of honest & good conversation being rated at 20<sup>l</sup> estate in a single Country rate that hath taken the oath of Fidelity to this Government & [noe other?] (except Friends) may be chosen Jurymen or Constables & have their vote in the choise of the Selectmen for the Towne affaires assessment of rates & Other prudentialls proper to the selectmen of the severall Townes provided still the major part of all Companyes of selectmen be Freemen from tyme to tyme that shall make a valid act As also where noe selectmen are to have their vote in ordering of schooles, hearing of cattle laying out of highways & distributing of Lands any Lawe use or custome to the Contrary not with standing & the former lawes soe farr as they relate to the liberty of such as are non freemen are hereby repealed.

Voted by the Magistrates with reference to the consent of our brethren the deputies.

JO. ENDECOTT, *Gov<sup>r</sup>*.

Consented to by the deputies

WILLIAM TORREY, *Cleric*.

Taken from Massachusetts Archives, Vol. 112, folios 101-104.

The fact that Joseph Bixby was not a freeman at the date of the petition given above, in spite of the fact that he was nearly forty years of age and of good reputation among his neighbors, would lead to the inference that he had not become a member of the church at Ipswich, the early records of which are lost, and as he was an inhabitant of Ipswich then, and later, he probably would not have been a member of any other church in New England.

A conscientious man would approach the subject of church membership as entirely distinct from the civic privileges to which it was a prerequisite, even though a regular and earnest attendant at meetings. After the removal to Rowley Village, which later became Boxford, when steps were taken to form a church at Topsfield, in which the Villagers within Rowley bounds were invited

and expected to take part, it is evident that Joseph Bixby felt called upon to enter into church fellowship. There is no record of the early membership of Topsfield church. The church was formed in 1663, and on the 4 Nov., 1663, Rev. Thomas Gilbert<sup>1</sup> was installed as pastor. He was but recently come from England, where he had been ejected from his living by the Act of Uniformity, and one of the conditions under which he accepted settlement at Topsfield was that the Villagers should help support the Topsfield church. One of the first steps taken after Mr. Gilbert's installation at Topsfield, was his admission as a freeman of the Colony. This took place at Ipswich, at a County Court held there 5 May, 1664. The clerk entered the following minute, "Mr. Thomas Gilbert and Joseph Bigsbye of Topsfield were made free." Although customary for the clerks of courts to make return of such admissions to the colonial secretary at Boston, and for him to make a record of such admissions, there is no mention in the Colony archives of the admission of either Gilbert or Bixby. There are many such instances. Not only does this record show that Joseph Bixby was a member of Topsfield church, but that fact, as well as of his wife's membership, is substantiated by the list of members made by Rev. Joseph Capen in 1684.

On the 22d 12 mo., 1649-50, in company with three others, Joseph Bixby had a grant from the town of meadow, not to exceed 16 acres, by Edward Lomas' meadow already granted near Mr. Rogers' farm.<sup>2</sup>

He possessed a "farm" in Ipswich. On 20 Feb., 1650-1, George Palmer of Ipswich, cooper, and Samuel Heford contracted to deliver to William Bartholomew thirty thousand hogshead staves; and Palmer assigned to Bartholomew, as security, all his part of the lumber and staves, whether made or in the making, felled or standing, on farms of Mr. Hubbard, Joseph Bigsbey and John Andrews. In 1654 seven cattle belonging to the estate of Thomas Scott of Ipswich were in possession of Joseph Bixby.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Prior to his settlement at Topsfield, Mr. Gilbert had "found employment at Rowley." He was a man of strong views, and free in his expression of opinion. He was censured by the General Court for references made to the King, and later got into trouble with his parishioners and was forced to leave Topsfield. He removed to Charlestown, and died there, respected for his ability and independence, in spite of certain personal failings, arising, it is probable, from his intemperate habits.

<sup>2</sup> Ipswich town records.

<sup>3</sup> Essex Deeds, Ipswich series, 1: 82; 1: 190; 2: 37, 38.



IPSWICH, MASS.  
Coming up the river from the bay looking towards the town



IPSWICH, MASS.  
The centre of the town





The town lands of Rowley extended along the entire northern and western borders of Ipswich. The inhabitants of Rowley on the 2d, 11mo., 1653 (Jan., 1654), voted that the lands appointed for a village within the bounds of Rowley should be viewed by a committee and proportioned among the Rowley proprietors "according to purchase," that term alluding to the relative ownership of the Rowley inhabitants in the common lands of the town. Those entitled to share in the Village lands very largely disposed of their rights to persons intending to settle there. Joseph Jewett of Rowley agreed to sell a large tract of the Village lands to Francis Peabody, Joseph Bixby, Abraham Redington and William Foster, but died before executing a deed.<sup>1</sup> His executors gave to each man a deed for his share of the purchase. To "Joseph Bigsbe of Rowley" they confirmed a thirty-sixth part of the Village lands,<sup>2</sup> in consideration of £23-6-8, the deed being dated 1 July, 1661.<sup>3</sup> On the same day, Bixby, in consideration of £25, granted one half of his purchase to Robert and Nicholas Wallis of Ipswich.<sup>4</sup> It would seem that Bixby's original purchase was probably estimated at 500 acres, of which he retained half.

As early as 1652, roads from Andover to Newbury and Ipswich had been laid out across the Village lands, and it is probable that an occasional settler could be found in the territory. Zacheus Gould and Governor Endicott had actual title to an extensive tract of land in the southwestern part near the Ipswich River. It was not until 16 Apr., 1668, that the lands in the Village were actually laid out to the possessors of rights to lands there. On that day, the town appears to have confirmed the doings of their committee, John Pickard and Ezekiel Northend. The total number of acres in the lots confirmed to the Village owners sums up 15,098, including 3200 acres of Gould and Endicott, and the 3000 acres reserved to the town in that part now Groveland.

To "the Topsfield men, Goodman Dorman, Goodman Peabody, and the rest, six in all," 1200 acres were granted. This tract was bounded south by the Fishing Brook.

<sup>1</sup> He died 26 Feb., 1660-1.

<sup>2</sup> Perley, in *History of Boxford*, states that the area of the Village lands was about 17,000 acres, and that of this Jewett had granted about 3,000 acres to Abraham Redington, Robert Stiles, Joseph Bixby, John Cummings, William Foster and John Peabody.

<sup>3</sup> *Essex Deeds*, Ipswich series, 1: 82; 1: 190; 2: 37, 38.

<sup>4</sup> The following January, the Wallises sold their one seventy-second part to William Goodhue of Ipswich for £60.

To Thomas Dorman, John Cummins, and Robert Stiles were granted 400 acres. This tract was bounded west by Andover line, and south with a line drawn from Andover line to a clump of trees on the north side of Humphrey's Pond.

To Francis Peabody, Joseph Bixbie, Abraham Redington, and William Foster 800 acres. This tract was bounded west on Andover line, south by Wade's brook, north by land of Dorman, Cummins and Stiles.<sup>1</sup>

The reference to Dorman and his five associates, as the "Topsfield men," would seem to indicate that Bixby may have had some connection with that village prior to his settlement in Rowley Village. But the later separation of the two grants to Dorman, Cummins and Stiles, and to Peabody, Redington, Bixby and Foster, may also be taken to show that they were two companies and not one. These six men did not originally purchase equal shares in the Village lands; Foster for instance, having purchased only half as much as Bixby.

Bixby and his partners had taken possession of the land sold them at once. In 1662 "Jos. Bigsby" was taxed by Rowley nine shillings and five pence, his rate being above the average in an assessment laid upon the whole township of Rowley, in which the highest rate was £1-5-7 and in which few paid more than sixteen shillings.

In 1673 several Village residents<sup>2</sup> petition the General Court regarding their obligations to Rowley, stating that "whereas your petitioners formerly purchased a tract of land of Joseph Jewett of Rowley, now deceased, on which we now dwell, which land was sold us as Village land, free from any engagement to the town of Rowley, else we had not purchased it." Rowley, in 1667, in town meeting, had voted that the Village residents might pay half their minister's rate to Topsfield and half to Rowley minister, "till they have a minister of their owne."<sup>3</sup>

Two years later they were ordered to pay all taxes as the people in town do, the money paid them to be applied to defraying the necessary charges of Rowley Village, and the residue to the improvement of the minister's farm there, the income of which should belong to the minister in Rowley until the Village settled an orthodox minister.

<sup>1</sup> Rowley Town records.

<sup>2</sup> At that time there were sixteen families living on the Village lands.

<sup>3</sup> Gage: History of Rowley.



Until the separation from Rowley that town appointed tax collectors, persons to see that the Sabbath was kept, and a constable for the Village. In 1680 "Joseph Bigsbee" and William Foster were appointed to inspect the families in the Village<sup>1</sup> which then had twenty-five families within its boundaries, an increase of nine families in seven years.

Almost from the beginning of the settlement at the Village there was friction between the people of Rowleytown and the Village. The Village residents were from several of the older towns, their homes were remote from Rowley meeting house, and they were, with one or two exceptions, not connected with Rowley in any other than a political way. As in the case with Rowley Village on the Merrimack, now Bradford, the intent of the Village grants was to permit a separate town organization as soon as the settlement was strong enough. On the 7 May, 1673, Rowley Village residents to the number of six petitioned the General Court as mentioned above, setting forth the terms of their purchase from Jewett, that they were from seven to nine miles from Rowley but near Topsfield, and that "about ten or twelve years since" Topsfield called Mr. Gilbert to be their minister and he was unwilling to accept "unless we of the village would engage to pay our shares in and to publique charges at Topsfield. Upon this Abraham Reddington, Joseph Biggsby, John Cummins, and the rest of us, being free as we apprehended, agreed to pay our proportions as our honest neighbors of Topsfield did, only provided they would remove or sett the meeting-house<sup>2</sup> so as it might stand convenient for us." The meeting house was placed within two or three miles of the Village and a church connection formed between the Topsfield and Village people which lasted until the establishment of a church in Boxford several years later. The petition further recited that as to military matters, they had been for many years "not regarded by Rowley and had trained in Topsfield, and some of the Village people had been elected to office in the Topsfield company." For some reason Redington had become dissatisfied and had attempted to obtain a closer asso-

<sup>1</sup> Gage: History of Rowley.

<sup>2</sup> Some idea of the preparations made by the residents in frontier towns, such as Topsfield and Boxford were in those days, against foes from without, is obtained from the description of the meeting house at Topsfield in 1673. The meeting house was surrounded by a stone wall five or six feet high, three feet broad at the bottom, inside of which, probably at one of the corners, was built a stone "watch-house," ten feet square. This was long known as the "old meeting-house fort." See Perley's History of Boxford.

ciation with Rowley, but these petitioners sought to have their Village declared free of Rowley, and united with Topsfield, "there being but sixteen families in the Village." Although the General Court refused to take the matter up at that time, at the session of Oct., 1674, it was ordered that the train soldiers of the Village could perform duty at ordinary trainings either at Topsfield or Rowley, until their village was supplied with a minister and have a sufficient number of inhabitants to train among themselves. This condition continued until October, 1684, when the foot soldiers of the Village were ordered to train with the Topsfield company;<sup>1</sup> but this order of the Court proved unsatisfactory to many of the inhabitants of the Village and gave rise to a petition signed by Abraham Redington, Joseph Bexby, Samuel Buswell, Sr., and William Foster, "in the name of the rest," setting forth that the order of 1684 was made "without any knowledge of ours," and that experience had shown that in obeying it many ills and much confusion had arisen. The petitioners considered that they and their fellows would be capable of doing better service to the country and themselves if allowed to train at home, as many live at a distance from Topsfield, some of them seven or eight miles or more. The General Court granted this petition by repealing the order of 1684, and ordered that the Villagers organize by such officers as the Major-general shall appoint.<sup>2</sup>

In the meantime further concessions had been granted by Rowley to the Villagers regarding their minister's rates, and the time had come for the Village to seek incorporation as a separate town. This was done in May, 1685, when Abraham Reddington, Sr., Joseph Bixbee, Sr., Samuel Buswell, Sr., William Foster and John Peabody, representing the others, petition the General Court to be made a township so that they may settle a minister, setting forth that they are now about forty families, that the village, containing about 18,000 acres of land, was originally laid out with that design, that they have a minister's farm, and until they have a settled minister they will contribute toward the maintenance of ministers in such places as they attend worship. This petition was granted on the 5 June, provided Rowley consented, and this consent was arranged for on the 7 July, 1685, when a committee from both the town and Village met, Joseph Bixbee being one of the six from

<sup>1</sup> Colony records, 5: 16, 455.

<sup>2</sup> Archives, 70: 135.

the Village, and agreed upon the bounds and terms of separation, one of the conditions being that twenty shillings in silver should be paid yearly to Rowley by Joseph Bixbee, Sr., John Peabody, William Foster, Samuel Symonds and Moses Tyler, until they have a minister settled in the Village. This payment was a town charge and was three years in arrears in July, 1699.<sup>1</sup>

The original papers in the proceedings are on file in Massachusetts Archives, vols. 10 and 112, and in vol. 112, folio 410, is found the consent of Rowley to the incorporation of the Village, under date of 12 Aug., 1685.

By June, 1686, the town was known as Boxford, but there appears no record incorporating the town as Boxford, nor is it known how the name came to be chosen. After the advent of the Royal Governors it became one of their prerogatives to name a new town, but prior to that the wishes of the inhabitants regarding the name of their town seem to have been regarded. The village of Boxford in Suffolk, England, is about two miles northeast of Assington, where the wife of Joseph Bixby had formerly owned land, and is about four miles from Little Waldingfield. It is also about the same distance from Hadleigh, the home of the widow Mary Bigsby (D) who died in Boston in 1654, and little more than a mile south of Groton, whence came Gov. Winthrop. The prominence of Joseph Bixby in the early settlement at Boxford, and his evident popularity among his neighbors, leads to the suspicion that he may have had a hand in the selection of a name for the new town.

The record of Joseph Bixby's public services is not complete. He was chosen sergeant of the "soldiery of Topsfield and the Villages adjoining thereto," 21-4 mo., 1666.<sup>2</sup> In June, 1671, Sergeant Bigsby, Abraham Reddington and others of the train band were fined for neglecting common training at Topsfield.<sup>3</sup>

At some unknown period, but later than 1674, when Nelson was commissioned lieutenant of the Rowley train band, Joseph Bixby was sergeant of the Rowley company. An undated petition containing the signatures of 77 foot soldiers and 10 troopers of the train band of Rowley, prays that Philip Nelson be commissioned "commander in chief of our train band" and John Johnson lieutenant. Among the names appended, which are not autographs, is the name of "Joseph Bigsby seargeant."

<sup>1</sup> Gage: History of Rowley.

<sup>2</sup> Essex Court records.

<sup>3</sup> Suffolk files 26,633.

Joseph Bixby was commonly styled Sergeant, even after his training days had passed. In 1686, John Gould exercised his company at Topsfield, according to an order received from the officers of his regiment, in defiance of a proclamation by the new government ordering a fast be kept on the 14 July, the day set aside for the training. He was also accused of uttering seditious words on the occasion of the reading of the proclamation by the pastor, Rev. Joseph Capen, at the Sunday service preceding that day. He was arrested and held in £200 to appear before the President and Council. The evidence showed that Gould had resented the new order in government, and was accused by some of having made speeches which indicated a willingness to join in a movement to maintain the old government. Gould denied having used the words ascribed to him, but acknowledged he had exercised his company as originally ordered before the arrival of the frigate *Rose* and publication of his majesty's commission. John How testified "on the Sabeth day after the order for the fast to be kept on the 14th instant was read to the people by their minister he heard Abraham Reddington and segt Bixby object it was but short warning and Lieut John Gold objected and said he had taken an oath to another government. . . . and for Randolph he new him not." Randolph and his friends were satisfied to make an example of Gould, who was kept in prison for some time and released only upon payment of a fine, and giving for those days heavy bonds.<sup>1</sup>

Rev. Joseph Capen was ordained at Topsfield in 1684, and upon taking charge made a list of the members of the church. In this list appear the names of Joseph Bixby, Sr., and his "wife."

Immediately upon becoming a town Boxford sent Abraham Reddington to the General Court as its deputy. It is noteworthy that after his name in the Court record the name of town represented does not appear. In 1690 the town voted to send a deputy, and Joseph Bixby, Sr., was one of the committee to decide and advise regarding his attendance.<sup>2</sup> In March, 1687, Sergeant Bixby was chosen moderator of the third town meeting held in Boxford. The other references to Joseph Bixby on the town records from this time on would seem to apply to Joseph Bixby, junior.

On the 24 June, 1689, the soldiers of Boxford "having reseved orders for the nominayson of officers where there is wanting and

<sup>1</sup> Suffolk files 2425.

<sup>2</sup> Town records.



our former officer Sargent Bigsbee by name being altogether disabled by reason of age and infirmities of Body that we are wholly destitute," elected a lieutenant and ensign. These nominations were forwarded by "Sargent Josaph Byxbe"<sup>1</sup> to the General Court for approval. The overthrow of Andros had taken place two months earlier.

The site of the dwelling house of Joseph Bixby is not definitely known.<sup>2</sup> He was a carpenter, and would undoubtedly have built well and strongly. As he had a large family, it is probable he built the customary dwelling house of that time,<sup>3</sup> two large rooms on either side of the central and only chimney. On the first floor of such houses was the hall or living room, and the parlor, which was also a sleeping apartment. An entry filled in the space between the two rooms, into which the outside "front door" opened, and from which a flight of steps ran to the second story, these steps being against the chimney and probably making two or three turns. The second story was planned like the first, with the possible exception of one of the large chambers which might be divided by a wainscotted partition, making two smaller chambers. The attic was large and roomy, for in those days the roof was steep, forming an angle of about 45°. To the back side of the house a lean-to may

<sup>1</sup> *Sargent Josaph Byxbe*

Facsimile of signature. Massachusetts Archives, 107: 142.

<sup>2</sup> The lands laid out to Bixby, Cummings, and the others extended eastward from Andover line, so to completely enclose the plain on which is situated the east village of Boxford. Six house lots of thirty acres each had been laid out on the plain, and on these the proprietors dwelt. A road was laid out east and west as near Fish Brook as possible. See *History of Boxford* by Sydney Perley, who some years later contributed an account of the Dwellings of Boxford to the Essex Institute Historical Collections, in which he traces the history of the house which Mr. Israel Herrick occupied in 1890 back to Joseph Bixby, and hazards the opinion that this house may have formed part of the house built by him when he settled in Boxford. From the somewhat confusing record obtained from deeds this opinion would seem to be erroneous, as Jonathan, not George Bixby was bequeathed the homestead.

Mr. Perley says that George Bixby succeeded his father in the ownership of the homestead, and in turn at his death in 1729, the last year he was taxed, was succeeded by his only surviving son, Gideon Bixby. The latter's son, Gideon, sold the place in April, 1774, to John Herrick. The farm then consisted of 108 acres. It was Israel, son of this John Herrick, who remodelled the house in 1800.

<sup>3</sup> In 1667, John Pickard let his farm of 250 acres to Edmund James and agreed to build and furnish a cellar twenty four feet long, with a chimney in it, a house twenty four feet long and sixteen feet wide, and to cover and finish the cellar and house, also a barn forty six feet long and eleven feet stud, with great doors, so a loaded cart could enter, and little doors, so an unloaded cart could go out. The ends, side and roof of the house were to be boarded and clapboarded, and the barn was to be shingled and underpinned. (*History of Boxford*, p. 55.)

have been attached at the time of building but was more likely added later. This lean-to would have extended nearly the whole length of the house, and here would be a long kitchen with, perhaps, a chamber or large pantry occupying one end of the lean-to. Over the kitchen were one or two chambers.

The first highway authorized by the new town of Boxford in 1686 was from Andover bounds to Topsfield "along by Joseph Bixbes hows."<sup>1</sup>

On the 24 May, 1728, George Bixby, Richard Kimball, and Jonathan Bixby, all of Boxford, grant to Joseph Bixby of Boxford, husbandman, all their rights in certain parcels of land in Boxford, in all 100 acres, including "the first lot, whereon old Sergeant Bixby lived." The grantors were George, son of Joseph Bixby, Sr., Jonathan, son of Jonathan, who had inherited the homestead, and Kimball, who had probably a right through purchase only. The grantee was Joseph, son of Joseph Bixby, Jr., who at this time was disposing of his estate in Boxford, preparatory to removal. If this lot could be traced, the exact location of Sergeant Bixby's house might be determined. There are some indications that it was near the mill erected on Fish Creek by Richard Kimball and others in 1710.

Rowley Village was one of the localities where in early days iron was obtained from the bog ore found in so many places in Massachusetts. Great hopes had been maintained by the first settlers that iron could be had in commercial quantities. As early as 1644 a company of London merchants and others was formed through the energetic work of John Winthrop, Jr., for the purpose of establishing iron works at some point in the vicinity of the English settlements, and Braintree was selected. The ore deposits there being found inferior to those at Saugus, the chief efforts of the company were directed to establishing works at what was called Hammer-smith, in Saugus. Here for about forty years mining and smelting of ore was carried on, first by the original company of undertakers, and after their failure, by persons who had succeeded to their rights and property.

Smaller works were commenced in several places. Less than ten years after Joseph Bixby's settlement at Boxford, a company of Essex men was formed to mine and smelt ore at Boxford. On the 25th Dec., 1670, John Gould, one of the company, quitclaimed to

<sup>1</sup> Town records.

the company 80 acres "on part whereof the said iron workes now standeth." The works were first managed by Henry Leonard, who had been employed at Hammersmith, and who probably employed his sons, Samuel, Nathaniel, and Thomas, and one Daniel Black, as workmen in the forge, purchasing the ore from such as would mine it and bring it to the works, paying therefore four shillings six pence per ox-cart load. Joseph Bixby was one of the owners in the works, but sold his one sixteenth interest, 29 Oct., 1673, to Jonathan Wade of Ipswich. He brought an action against Thomas Baker, as clerk of the owners, in June, 1673, to recover £50-6, but withdrew his suit. Leonard, failing to meet his obligations on account of his lease, and being sued by his workman, Black, for his services, fled the country late in 1673 to evade a judgment of £5 or thereabouts which Black had obtained.

In March, 1674,<sup>1</sup> the proprietors voted to place the management of affairs in the hands of a committee, of whom John Gould was one, and to employ Samuel and Nathaniel Leonard to smelt the ore. The forge was in poor repair. Operations there, apparently with the consent of Gould, after his fellow committee members had objected, resulted in the works taking fire, and being destroyed. Whereupon the rest of the owners sued Gould to recover the value of the plant, claiming £210 damages. The case was carried to the upper court. The value of the buildings and property destroyed by fire was assessed by Joseph Bexby and Abraham Reddington, the former making oath 26 March, 1675, that he "doth not look at himself to be owner of any part of ye workes."<sup>2</sup>

There is no record of the sale by Joseph Bixby of what lands he

<sup>1</sup> There was an evident desire on the part of the owners of the iron works, and probably other residents of the town, to be rid of the Leonards. In the family of Mrs. Leonard was a maid, one Hannah Downing, daughter of Malcolm Downing, who was of a lively disposition, and whose conduct had been at times encouraged and commended by her master and mistress, and at times reprobated. The family were evidently given to rough ways and eventually Hannah was induced to complain of the treatment accorded her by the Leonard boys. The papers in the case are on file with the Essex County Court papers, and while throwing much light upon the Leonards and their friends, and some slight light upon the iron works, are not of sufficient credibility to be accepted at their face value. As Mrs. Leonard herself claimed, the purpose of the complaint may have been to drive her out of the town. It is in this case that we find the deposition of Sergeant Joseph Bixby given 2, 5th mo., 1674, in which he gives his age as 54 years. Concerning the Leonards, he testified to their rough way of life, and disregard of conventionalities, and of their use of "very bad words, as Divell and Damn yee, and many other words which I have been ashamed to heare, which wicked expressions have been very frequent with them." The good man was much shocked. Daniel Bixby also testified in the case, and from testimony of another, it appears that Benjamin Bixby had been friendly with the family. (*Essex files*, 21: 140.)

<sup>2</sup> Suffolk Files, 1397.



may have possessed in Ipswich. Nor until his purchase of the interest in the Village lands does he appear of record as acquiring real estate. On the 3 Feb., 1669, he joined with John Ruck of Salem, vintner, in the purchase of two parcels of land in Topsfield, each of twenty acres, for which they paid £4-5, and which are described as the 25th lot in the first division near Wheelwright Brook, between the lots of Francis Peabody and John How, and the other the ninth lot in the second division, between the lots of Ensign Howlett and John How, and a part of which was sticky meadow. On the 8 Sept., 1672, he purchased two acres adjoining his own land at Rowley Village, and on the 29 Jan., 1676, he made further purchases of upland and meadow in Topsfield, adjoining land he already owned there, which is probably the land he had bought of John Gould 9 May, 1674. It was probably this Topsfield land which Benjamin Bixby settled upon and eventually inherited.

In 1687, in a tax list which has fortunately come down to us, Joseph Bixby is described as "an old, decrepit man," and it is possible that at that time his son George was in charge of the home place.<sup>1</sup>

There was no distribution of the estate of Joseph Bixby until after the death of his widow, who survived him three years. Her death is noted on Boxford records, "Sarah Bixbe a wedow of 84 Years of aeged desead in Juen the third," but the year is missing. Her husband's will was proved 6 March, 1703-4, and an inventory filed the following month, when it is evident the widow was not living. We may assume that she had died in 1703, as on the 17 Jan., 1702-3, she had been dismissed with other women members of the Topsfield church to the church in Boxford, which had been organized the preceding month. In the church record she was styled the "Widow Bixby."

The will of Joseph Bixby is on file at Salem, together with an inventory of his estate, both of which follow.<sup>2</sup>

#### *Will*

The last will and testament of Josaph Bixby Sener liveing in Boxford being aged and not expacting to contenew long in this world yet perfect in his understanding and in A Resinal disposing miend: I doe bequeath my Souel to Almity God who gave it mee and my

<sup>1</sup> See under Sergeant Joseph Bixby, Jr. (11).

<sup>2</sup> Facsimile of will is shown opposite page 26

body to bee desantly buriad in the Earth after my deseas: and as for my outward Estat I despos of it as heerit foloweth: and to my son Josaph I will and bequeath forty and fouer Acors and a quarter of land: pearte of it is the land I gave him a pon mariag: which land he now liveeth uppon: also I doe give to my son gorg the Eaigh-teen acors of land hee now liveath a pon and Elaven acors moer behind durty medow and and two acors and three quarters of medow in durty medow and three acors of medow in the slip and an acor of upland lying Round it for convenantsy of fencing of it:

also I doe give to my son Jonathen twenty and Eaigh acors of land he now liveath a pon which is the homested I live uppon and fouer acors of medow in long medow which I bout of Captin Chandler: and the Reast of my land shal be Eaqually parted A mongst my 3 sons; and forder my will is that my thre sons Josaph gorg and Jonathen shal keep my wief on cow winter and sommer: and also one hog and a low hir twenty bushel of Endian corn and three bushel of wheat and two of malt one baril of sider and twelve pound of flax tear and six pound of sheeps woll and nien cord of wood all thes a bove s<sup>d</sup> perticalers aer to be providad yearly during hir wedowhood: also the weast Eand of the hous with the utensens in it: also thes three sons a bove named shal allow thair mother a peec of Eaigh a peec yearly.

my son daniel hath had his porsion alredy and I doe give to my son benjemien three pound to be payed in corn by my sons Josaph gorg and Jonathen Eaqually a mongst them.

my daftar Mary Ston hath had seven pound and three shillings wicth is hir porsion.

and my will is that my dafter Abegal shal have ten pound of that Estat that my wief shal leave behind hir at hir deseas: also my will is that my three sons Josaph goarg and Jonathen doe pay all my honest deats and maintain mee and my wief with meat drink and clothing and wood and tendanc and what wee stand in need of during my natural lief and after my death beury me desantly which charges and disbursments my will is that my three sons Josaph goarg and Jonathen doe bear it eaqually one as much as a nother.

it is to be understod that I give to my 3 sons Josaph gorg and Jonathen all the undevidad land not hear named Eaqually a mongst them

also my three sons Joseph goarg and Jonathen aer to begin to

doe thair shaers in all that is Exprased in this Enstrument att the deat of this Enstrument: I doe desiar that John Pebody and Thomas Redington shall bee my over sears of this my will that it may bee parfermed in all Respect according to what is Exprased in this my last will and testament

and in testimony that this is my las will and testimont I the said Josaph Bixbe sener have seat tow my hand and seall this Elaventh day of november in the year of our Lord one thowsend six hundred nienty and nien

Witnesses

JOHN PEBODY

WILLIAM FOSTER

ABRAHAM REDINGTON

THOMAS REDINGTON

JOSAPH BIXBEE

Sener his J mark  
and seall

SARAH BIXBEE hir  
marck 2 B widdow

to the desesad hath set hir hand hear  
to in testimony of hir consent to this  
will of hir leat husband.

Ess.ss. Before y<sup>e</sup> Hon<sup>bl</sup> John Appleton Esq<sup>r</sup> Judge of y<sup>e</sup> probates &c in Ipsw<sup>ch</sup> March 6, 1703-4—William Foster & Abraham Redington of Boxford in y<sup>e</sup> County of Essex appear<sup>d</sup> & made Oath y<sup>t</sup> they were prsent & saw Joseph Bigsbee Senj<sup>r</sup> of s<sup>d</sup> Boxford signe seale & heard him publish & declare y<sup>e</sup> within written Instrmt to bee his last Will and Testamt & w<sup>a</sup> he so Did he was of a disposeing mind To y<sup>e</sup> best of their Discerning and y<sup>t</sup> They sett to Their hands as Witness in his p<sup>r</sup>sence—& at y<sup>e</sup> same Time They Saw John Pebody & Thomas Redington Sett to Their hand as Wittness In his p<sup>r</sup>sence

Upon which This Will was proved approved & allowed

Attest DAN<sup>l</sup> ROGERS

On back of Will:

Joseph Bixbees Sen<sup>r</sup>

Will proved approved  
& allowed

Record Exam<sup>dd</sup>

1704

Boxford

Sargent Bixbes will  
proved approved & allow<sup>d</sup>





my last will and testiment of Josaph Bixby soner living  
in Dorford being aged and not Expecting to Contenow long in this  
worlde yett yearfast in his vnderstanding and in a Rational dispo-  
sing mind: I Doe bequeth my soule to Almightie God who gave  
it mee and my body to bee decently buried in the earth after  
my decess: and as for my outward Estat. I Dispose of it as heret  
foloweth: and to my son Josaph I will and bequeth forty and foure  
Acres and a quarter of Land: whereof it is the Land I gave him  
a yon marriag: which Land he now liueth vpon:  
also I Doe giue to my son Georg the Eighteen acres of Land he now  
liueth a yon and Clauon acres more behind dusty meadow and  
and two acres and three quarters of meadow in dusty meadow and  
three acres of meadow in the sliet and an acre of upland lying  
round it for Conueniency of fancing of it:  
also I Doe giue to my son Jonathon twenty and eight acres of  
Land he now liueth a yon which is the hamstead of liue vapon  
and foure acres of meadow in long meadow which I bout of Caplin  
Chandler: and the Rest of my Land shal be Equally parted a  
mongst my 3. sons: and for doo my will is that my three sons  
Josaph Georg and Jonathon shal haue my wief on Cow winter and  
Summer: and also one hog and a low hir twenty bushel of Indian  
Corn and three bushel of wheat and two of malt one Baril of  
Sider and twelue pound of flux toase and six pound of shrews  
well and nien Cord of wood all this a yon. I. ~~particulars are to~~  
be provided yearly during his widowhood: also the west end of  
the hous with the stoness in it: also the threewall bow named shul  
allow thair mothor a spae of Eigh a yon yearly  
my son Daniel hath had his portion a yon and I Doe giue to  
my son Benjamin three pound to be payed in Corn by my sons  
Josaph Georg and Jonathon Equally a mongst them  
my daughter Mary ston hath had seven pound and three shilling  
with a yon portion: and my will is that my daughter Abigail shal haue ten pound  
of that Estat that my wief shal leaue behind hir at hir  
decess: also that my will is that my three sons Josaph Georg  
and Jonathon Doe pay all my heret doats and maintain  
mee and my wief with meat drink and clothing and wood  
and fardene and what wee stand in need of during my naturall  
liet and after my death bury me decently which Charges  
and Disbursements my will is that my three sons Josaph Georg  
and Jonathon Doe bear it Equally and as much as a nother  
it is to be vnder stood that I giue to my 3. sons Josaph Georg and Jonathon  
all the vnderlied land not here named Equally a mongst them  
also my three sons Josaph Georg and Jonathon are to begin to Doe  
thair share in all that is Expressed in this Enstrument att the  
deat of this Enstrument: I Doe Desire that John Roberts and  
Thomas Radington shal bee my ouer seers of this my will that  
it may bee performed

Witnagos

John Zaborny

William Foster

Abraham Redington  
Thomas Redington

his 7 March  
and 1848

Jarah Bixby nix  
march 28 1880

to the <sup>General</sup> Court  
both sit his <sup>hand</sup> <sup>to</sup> in testimony  
of his consent to this will of our  
last husband

[illegible]





*Inventory.*

Aprill 29: 1704 than we whos names are undar written being desired by Joseph Byxbe to prize the Estat of his father who desased Aprill the 17: 1701<sup>1</sup> and we have vewed and prized the a bove s<sup>d</sup> estat as fouloeth all as mony

First the land that he gave by his will to his Son Joseph 44 acrs<sup>2</sup> we have prized at thirty too pounds

and the land he gave to his son gorg by his will we priz: at twanty on pounds 35. 3/4

and the land he gave to his son Jonathan we doe priz at sixty pounds housing and orchard and madoe included 32

and his undavided land spoken of in the will we doe priz at twanty five pounds. 9L.

and the hous hould stuf we priz as mony

on fethar bad 2 boulstars 3 pelowes 2 shets:

2 coverlads 3 bad blankts 3-14-0

3 napkens on tabcloth five pelow bers 0-08-0

brace<sup>3</sup> 2 ketels on mortar and pastel

worming pane: scelet scemor 01-06-6

putor 7 platers 2 pots and som ould putor 00-17-0

five small books 00-04-0

on chast five smal Boxis 4 ould toubs 00-11-0

2 iron pots and pothuks spet and sword tramells

tongs shore and coulтар grediron 02-02-0

1 chain 3 wadgis chafing dish dish ironfoot

2 Irones 2 axis 4 agars and other ould iron 1-09-0

3 Chairs and three sheers 00-16-0

trundel badstord and othar ould things we priz at 00-11-0

We have prized what is mentioned ase mony as witness our hands  
Boxford Aprill: 29: 1704.

JOSEPH PABODY

JOHN STILLS

<sup>1</sup> The date was first written 1700, and later changed to 1701. It must be remembered that at that time the year ended late in March, and the writing of 1700 was a natural lapse.

<sup>2</sup> 44 acres inserted in another hand as also the figures 35 3/4, 32 and 9 L in the following paragraphs.

<sup>3</sup> Brass; just as the following paragraph enumerates the value of the pewter utensils.

*Children:*<sup>1</sup>

- 1- 1 JOSEPH, born probably in 1648 or 1649, "eldest son";<sup>2</sup> married Sarah Gould.
- 2- 2 DANIEL, born probably 1651; married Hannah Chandler.
- 3- 3 BENJAMIN, born probably in 1653; married Mary.
- 4 SARAH, died 18 Jan., 1657.
- 5 NATHANIEL, died 11 July, 1658.
- 6 MARY, born 18 Feb., 1659; married ——— Stone. She was living in 1699.
- 7- 7 GEORGE, born probably about 1660-5; married Rebecca Porter.
- 8- 8 JONATHAN, born probably about 1666-70; married Mary Smith.

- 9 ABIGAIL. The date of her birth is unknown, nor has record of her baptism been found. She was admitted to the church at Boxford, 25 July, 1703, and on the preceding 25 Feb., Tryphena, daughter of Abigail Bixby, was baptised in that church. Abigail Bigsby of Chebacco parish, Ipswich, was published to William Bennet, 20 April, 1720.<sup>3</sup> It seems probable that William Bennet was son of Henry, and, if so, born in 1657. Nothing more is told of him in the "Bennet Family of Ipswich," printed in N. E. Hist. Geneal. Register, 29: 165, except that he was living in 1685. There was a William Bennet, Sr., of Chebacco in 1733, and a younger William who had wife Sarah. There were other William Bennets in that section of Essex County, but sufficient seems to be known of them to indicate that none of them could have been the William who intended marriage with Abigail Bigsby.

There is no settlement of the estate of William Bennet of Ipswich on record, nor has any definite information been obtained concerning him or of Abigail. Topsfield church records, however, note the death of Abigail Bixby, "an aged woman," 7 Nov., 1758.

Tryphena Bigsby was published at Ipswich to Thomas Vickery, 15 Sept., 1722, but died unmarried at Ipswich, 7 Oct., 1722.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> There is record of birth of but one child of Joseph Bixby, and the death of two others, all found on the County Clerk's records. Rowley and Topsfield records yield no information. It is supposed that the six children first named were born in Ipswich, and the last three probably after the removal to Rowley Village. Ipswich church records prior to 1720 are lost, and the Topsfield church record of baptisms commences 1684. The order of birth of the children as here given depends upon a careful study of probabilities.

<sup>2</sup> Essex Probate records, estate Joseph Bixby, Sr.

<sup>3</sup> Ipswich Records.

## **SECOND GENERATION**



## SECOND GENERATION

### II

II. JOSEPH BIXBY (*Joseph*), of Boxford, Mass., born presumably at Ipswich, Mass., in 1648; died probably at Boxford in 1725. Administration was granted 5 Oct., 1725, on his estate, which inventoried £350-12-11, to Joseph "eldest son." He married 29 March, 1682, at Boxford, SARAH GOULD,<sup>1</sup> born 18 Dec. 1664, died 4 Dec., 1723, daughter of Capt. John and Sarah (Baker) Gould of Topsfield,<sup>2</sup> Mass.

*Children, all born at Boxford:*<sup>3</sup>

- 1- 1 JOSEPH, born 29 March, 1683; married Lydia Peabody.
- 2- 2 SARAH, born 3 Aug., 1685; married James Higgins.
- 3 PRISCILLA, born 28 Feb. (1687-8); living in April, 1728;<sup>4</sup> married 27 Oct., 1720, at Boxford, Joshua Higgins of Orleans, Mass.<sup>5</sup>
- 4- 4 PHEBE, born 19 April, 1690, baptized 8 June, 1690, at Topsfield; married Samuel Pickard.
- 5- 5 JOHN, born 26 July (1692), baptized 28 Aug., 1692, at Topsfield; married Esther Andrews.
- 6 MARY, born 10 or 19 April, baptized 3 June, 1694, at Topsfield; married 12 Jan., 1743-4, Eliezer Lake. Possibly as his second wife. Eliezer Lake, "an aged man," died 29 April, 1771. Mary Lake, "an aged woman," died in 1775. (See Sarah Bixby, 1354.)
- 7- 7 THOMAS, born 2 April, 16 (96), baptized 9 Aug., 1696, at Topsfield; married Alice Cummings.
- 8- 8 HANNAH, born 1 Dec., 1699; married Richard Towne.
- 9- 9 MOSES, born 20 July, 1704; married Phebe Hopkins.

JOSEPH BIXBY, junior, was a husbandman. He lived at Boxford, and was prominent in town affairs, taking his father's place in the public's service. In 1675 he was a member of the Rowley com-

<sup>1</sup> Essex County Court records; where also are obtained the births of the two eldest children, in which record the name is spelled Biggisby.

<sup>2</sup> Sarah and Joseph Bixby join with other Gould heirs in deed, acknowledged 5 July, 1723. (*Essex Deeds*, 40: 271.) See also Gould Genealogy (1895), pp. 50-54.

<sup>3</sup> The dates here given are from Boxford town records and Topsfield church records. The latter are printed in Essex Institute Hist. Coll. and Coll. Topsfield Hist. Soc. Baptismal records do not commence until 1688. Topsfield town record of births begins practically with about 1700, evidently a family series begun some years later. Boxford town records of births commence earlier but are badly worn. All of the children are named in divisions of father's estate, and receipts given to Joseph the administrator are on file from all but Phebe, Priscilla (her husband receipting however), and John. Jonathan Bixby receipted for Moses. See Essex Probate records and files.

<sup>4</sup> Suffolk files, 21407.

<sup>5</sup> Intention of marriage at Orleans, 13 Aug., 1720.

pany, commanded by Capt. Samuel Brocklebank, and was one of the twelve men impressed out of that company 29 Nov., 1675,<sup>1</sup> and assigned to the company commanded by Maj. Samuel Appleton which took part in the Narragansett campaign. Jeremiah Swain of Reading was lieutenant of this company. Bixby's name appears among those of the sixty one new men "that are now listed,"<sup>2</sup> the muster roll being made up on Dedham Plain, as of 9 Dec., 1675, when it was found that the Massachusetts contingent numbered 540 men, who were under Appleton's command. The day before the fight the army was joined by 325 Connecticut troops, and the whole force, which also included Plymouth Colony troops, was commanded by Gov. Josiah Winslow. Appleton's own company took part in the assault upon the Indian fort at Narragansett 19 December and lost four killed and eighteen wounded.

In 1728, the General Court granted to the survivors of this campaign, or their representatives, seven townships, known as the Narragansett townships, of which Souhegan West, afterward Amherst, N. H., was number three. Joseph Bixby's right was claimed by his son John Bixby of Boxford.<sup>3</sup>

Joseph Bixby does not appear to have performed any other service in this war.

Although not a member of the Topsfield church, he was appointed with Thomas Perkins, Jr., at a town meeting in Topsfield, 29 July, 1681, "to go to Cambrig to pilot Mr. Capen to Topsfield to Lieut. Peabody's house." Rev. Joseph Capen proved acceptable to Topsfield church, and was ordained and served there forty one years. He was born in Dorchester, and was the first Topsfield minister born in America.

Joseph Bixby, Jr., was one of the selectmen of Boxford in 1688, and was reelected 24 June, 1689, when he was styled corporal. He was elected eleven times to that office, his last service being in 1723. He was moderator of town meeting in 1694-5 and in 1699; was constable, an office of great responsibility in early times, in 1691; on committee to build the meeting house in 1699; and to seat the people in the meeting house in January, 1700-1, a post requiring tact and good judgment, as the congregation was seated according

<sup>1</sup> Mass. Archives, 68: 68.

<sup>2</sup> Bodge: History of King Philip's War, page 157.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, page 424.



to the dignity of their position in society. In 1701 he was on the committee to build the minister's house. He was again moderator in 1702, helped seat the meeting house in 1703, and was grand-juryman that same year. In 1702 he also served as tythingman. He is first mentioned in town records as sergeant in 1700. From the incorporation of Boxford until 1705 he was a member of the committee appointed from time to time to meet committees of other towns to agree upon the bounds of Boxford.<sup>1</sup>

On the 22 March, 1689-90, several Boxford men were admitted freemen of the Colony, among them "Joseph Byxbe."<sup>2</sup>

There is in existence a country rate for Boxford, dated 3 Oct., 1687. On this return<sup>3</sup> appear many details not commonly given in the tax lists. Joseph Bixby, Sr., his sons, Joseph and George, were taxed as follows:

	head	house	acres	oxen	horse	cows	young cattle	sheep	swine	shilling	pence
Joseph Bixby, Jr.	1	1	10	2	1	3	0	0	1	4	3
George Bixby	1	0	3	0	1	2	0	0	1	2	9
Joseph Bixby, Sr. "an Old decrepit man."	0	1	14	2	1	4	2	2	2	3	4

As George Bixby is taxed for his "head," that is, a poll tax, and for some stock, but not for a house, it is possible that the elder Bixby had relinquished the care of the home farm to him, and that he at that time lived with his father.

Sarah (Gould) Bixby, wife of Joseph Bixby, Jr., was a granddaughter of Zacheus Gould who settled first at Lynn, Mass., and later at Topsfield, where he acquired a large landed estate. Zacheus Gould was 72 years old in 1661. His wife was Phoebe Deacon, daughter of Thomas and Martha Deacon of Corner Hall, Bovington, Hempstead, Hertfordshire, England, and a near relative to Lt. Col. Thomas Deacon, the parliamentarian soldier. The Deacons were an armorial family, and like the Goulds, had long

<sup>1</sup> Boxford town records, printed in Topsfield Historical Collections.

<sup>2</sup> Mass. Archives, 35: 353.

<sup>3</sup> N. E. Hist. Geneal. Reg., 33: 162.

been settled in the locality whence the Goulds emigrated to New England. A sister of Phoebe (Deacon) Gould married John Putnam of Danvers.<sup>1</sup>

The inventory of the estate of Joseph Bixby valued his house, lands and right in undivided land lying on the east of Mr. Pickard's farm, at £237, land in Rocke woods in Partnership, 19 acres, £28, two parcels of meadow in Andover<sup>2</sup> £28. Personalty, £57-2-11. All members of his family signing receipts for their portion used the spelling Byxbe.<sup>3</sup>

From Suffolk court files, we learn that Joshua Higgins and his wife, Priscilla, were not satisfied with the share allotted to them, in their father's estate, and in consequence brought suit against Joseph Bixby, the administrator, and recovered £40. Joseph appealed from this judgment and won his case. The real estate was valued at £293, and was divided equally between Joseph and John, the two eldest sons, who gave bonds to pay their brothers and sisters their portions. The estate was divided into ten shares, the eldest son receiving a double portion.<sup>4</sup>

## 12

II. DANIEL BIXBY (*Joseph*), born at Ipswich, Mass., about 1651; died at Andover, Mass., 7 May, 1717,<sup>5</sup> leaving a will dated 12 April, 1715, proved 5 July, 1717.

Daniel Bigsbie and HANNAH CHANDLER were married 2 Dec., 1674, by William French.<sup>6</sup> Hannah Chandler was daughter of Lieut. Thomas<sup>7</sup> and Hannah (Brewer) Chandler, and died 20 Nov., 1730.<sup>8</sup>

*Children, born at Andover:*

- 1 DANIEL, born 18 Sept., 1675; probably died in the lifetime of his father.
- 2- 2 HANNAH, born 13 Dec., 1679; married Stephen Barnard, Jr.
- 3- 3 THOMAS, born 18 Dec., 1681; married Deborah Elkins.
- 4 SARAH, born 19 Jan., 1683; died 17 July, 1712.
- 5- 5 JONATHAN, born probably in 1685, at Andover; married Rachel Hobart.

<sup>1</sup> Putnam: Putnam Lineage, pp. 2, 3.

<sup>2</sup> In 1699 he bought Deer meadow in Andover of Joseph Parker, and in 1719 granted the same to Joseph Bixby, Jr., of Boxford, weaver. (*Essex Deeds*, 36: 176, 177.)

<sup>3</sup> Essex Probate, 2509.

<sup>4</sup> Suffolk files, 18745, 19800, 21407.

<sup>5</sup> Family record of C. M. Bixby (13436. 4K2), who also gives the death of Hannah as 22 Nov.

<sup>6</sup> Andover records in N. E. Hist. Geneal. Reg., 3: 66, and Andover Vital Records.

<sup>7</sup> Essex Deeds, 32: 234.

<sup>8</sup> Manual South Church, Andover.

- 6- 6 DAVID, born 15 Feb., 1687-8; married Abigail Butterfield.  
 7- 7 MEPHIBOSHETH, born 3 April, 1690; married Mary Emmons.  
 8- 8 MARY, born 12<sup>1</sup> April, 1693; married 7 June, 1716, George Holt.  
 9- 9 JOSEPH, born 5 March, 1695-6; married Experience Frost.

DANIEL BIXBY removed to Andover prior to his marriage. He was a husbandman and carpenter. In 1690, he lived between John Russ and Christopher Osgood.<sup>2</sup> In those days Boxford and Andover, Mass., were adjoining towns. His father-in-law<sup>3</sup> was one of the influential men of Andover, had been one of the early settlers there, and represented the town in the General Court in 1678 and 1679. Thomas Chandler conveyed to his son-in-law, Daniel Bixby, sixty acres near the Shawshin river, 12 April, 1688, the consideration being £40. It is said that a Robert Bigsby was witness to this deed.<sup>4</sup> Chandler died in 1703 aged about 73 years leaving a will in which mention is made of his daughter Bixby. His widow, Hannah, died 25 Oct., 1717.

The will of Daniel "Bixbe" names all of his sons except Daniel and Jonathan. If his daughter-in-law Rachel should have a living child by his son, the child is given 20 shillings. All his lands and buildings were to be enjoyed jointly by his wife and son Joseph, who were made executors. The daughter Hannah had had her portion.

Rachel was the widow of Jonathan, but of her nothing more is known except she became the mother of a child. Joseph sold his father's "right" to common land in Andover, in 1722.<sup>5</sup>

### 13

II. BENJAMIN BIXBY (*Joseph*), born probably at Ipswich, Mass., and in 1650; died during the first half of 1727, probably at Topsfield, Mass. He was an unmarried man in July, 1674,<sup>6</sup> but was soon after married, as his eldest child was born in 1676. It is thought he was twice married, both wives being named MARY.

<sup>1</sup> Or 10 April, see Chandler Genealogy, also Andover Vital Records.

<sup>2</sup> Essex Court files, 50: 62, case of Elizabeth Sessions vs. Joseph Chandler. Elizabeth had lived as a maid in Bixby's family.

<sup>3</sup> See Chandler Genealogy (1883), page 37.

<sup>4</sup> Faith in the accuracy of the recording clerk is lessened on finding that the date of acknowledgment of the deed is given 11 Feb., 1678, ten years prior to its date. The deed was not recorded until 12 Dec., 1717. In 1688 there was a Robert Buzwell living at Andover who was born in 1667-8, and may have been the witness.

<sup>5</sup> Essex Deeds, 40: 172.

<sup>6</sup> Essex Court files, 21: 140.

Certainly he left a widow Mary, who was living as late as Jan., 1732-3.<sup>1</sup>

*Children, probably all born at Topsfield:*<sup>2</sup>

- 1 CALEB, born probably in 1676; died 14 July, 1754, "aged 78 years,"<sup>3</sup> at Killingly, Conn.; married 17 July, 1723, at Killingly,<sup>4</sup> Sarah Blanchard, daughter of George and Sarah Blanchard. She was admitted to the church at Killingly 9 Jan., 1754, and died there 17 Dec., 1766, "aged 76 years."<sup>4</sup> Caleb Bixby was in the military service of the colony of Massachusetts Bay in 1704.<sup>5</sup> It is probable that he accompanied his brother Samuel to Sutton in 1716, and became a landowner there. He sold land in Sutton in 1721, 1724, 1729, and 1738. The last sale was by deed dated 30 March, 1738, by which he conveyed 45 acres to John Towne, Jr.,

<sup>1</sup> Neither the death of Benjamin Bixby nor of his wife is of record. Benjamin sold, 5 March, 1726-7, three lots of land which had formerly been a part of Topsfield commons. His wife, Mary, joined in the deed. On the 11 July, 1727, the witnesses acknowledge their signatures, and testify that they saw Benjamin Byxbe "late of Topsfield, deceased" sign. The widow Mary was admitted to the church at Killingly 25 June, 1738, by letter from Topsfield church. She was living at Topsfield Jan., 1732-3, as on the 17th of that month she released dower in the estate sold by her son Nathan to Rev. John Emerson (*Essex Deeds*, 49: 184; 63: 250). The name Caleb is unusual in families associated with Topsfield at that early date, with the exception of the Kimball family. Henry Kimball of Ipswich (whose son Richard was for a time of Topsfield, and whose grand-nephew was that Richard Kimball who joins with the Bixbys in several deeds of land and was a large landowner in Boxford), died in 1676, leaving twelve children, all of whose names are known. Caleb, another child of Henry, was killed at the fight at Bloody Brook, where fell "the flower of Essex." Caleb's elder sister, Mary, born 29 Nov., 1641, at Watertown, was living in 1677 when Caleb's estate was divided, but is not otherwise mentioned in Essex County records. Unfortunately, although the order of the court for the distribution of both the estate of Caleb and of his father are of record, the children are not individually named. (*See Kimball Genealogy by Morrison and Sharples*.) Was Mary Kimball the wife of Benjamin Bixby? Did she name her eldest son, born very soon after the tragic death of her brother Caleb, after him? If so, and Benjamin Bixby was not twice married, she was a very aged woman when dismissed to the church at Killingly, and had borne children very late in life. As there is a period of nearly ten years between the birth of Benjamin in 1678 and that of Samuel baptized in 1689, it is probable that during that period Benjamin Bixby's wife had died and he had again married. The Henry Kimball mentioned above, married about 1640 Mary, daughter of John Wyatt, and thus his children were own cousins to the children of Joseph Bixby, Sr. See N. E. Hist. Geneal. Reg., 28. The Kimballs were from Rattlesden, Suffolk, England, not far from the home of the parents and ancestors of Joseph Bixby.

<sup>2</sup> Birth and baptismal dates are from town and church records of Topsfield, as printed. At the time the two youngest children were baptized, Benjamin, junior, had a family. The record seems to clearly differentiate between the two Benjamins. The printed copy varies from the original by inserting a "Jr." after Benjamin's name. The church baptisms are cited in the "Vital Records," and for the early years have also been printed in the Essex Institute Hist. Coll. It is known that portions of the record have become illegible since their first examination for genealogical purposes, a half century or more ago. The birth of George Bixby is found in the Bixby Ms., obtained from a family record written about 1860 by Henry M. Bixby (13538. 55) from dictation of Joseph Bixby (13538.4). The birth of Nathan on the 16th and his baptism twelve days earlier suggests that in some way 1 Nov., was read 16th, as the baptism appears to be correctly entered.

<sup>3</sup> Killingly church records, which to 1775 were copied by Miss Ellen D. Larned and printed in the *Putnam Patriot* in 1894, and also to 1750 in Putnam's Historical Magazine. The *Patriot* copy gives Caleb's death as occurring 4 July.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> "Paid Jonathan Kimball and Caleb Bigsby, soldiers that served Her Majesty under command of Lt. (Pelatiah) Whittemore, 17 June (1704), to 12 Jan., 1704-5, £3-10-0." (*Colony Treasurer's accounts*, p. 270.)



of Topsfield, in consideration of £370. He probably removed that year to Thompson, Conn., as he was admitted to the church there in 1738.<sup>1</sup> The Bable Bixby mentioned in the printed Sutton records in the History of Sutton as a resident in 1726 is undoubtedly a misreading of Caleb's name. In 1731 he was seated in the third pew of the Sutton meeting-house. His home in Killingly was in the locality later known as Putnam Heights. He purchased of Benjamin Bixby land in Thompson parish, Killingly, 20 March, 1738, paying therefor £300. He is not known to have had issue, and certainly left none at his death. By will of 11 Jan., 1750-1, he left his entire estate to his wife's brother, William Blanchard, who was charged with the care of the testator and his wife during their lives. This will was proved 6 Aug., 1754, when administration was granted to the relict, Sarah, and Mr. Samuel Buck,<sup>2</sup> the executor named in the will being deceased. The estate comprised a house and land, worth £50, and other property to the value of £35.

2- 2 BENJAMIN, born 26 Nov., 1678; married Martha Lamsom.

3 JOSHUA, died "an ancient man," 9 June, 1754; married 2 April, 1714, Mary Davis. He was late of Topsfield, 7 Oct., 1754, when his widow had administration on his estate. George Bixby of Topsfield, gentleman, was her surety. Rev. John Emerson, minister at Topsfield, noted in his diary that he attended the funeral of Joshua Bixby, 10 June, 1754.<sup>3</sup>

*Probably by second wife:*

4- 4 SAMUEL, baptized 2 June, 1689; married Martha Underwood.

5- 5 GEORGE, born 31 Jan., 1692; baptized 7 Feb., 1691-2; married Mary (Baily) Porter; (2) Sarah (Goodhue) Cummings.

6- 6 NATHAN, born 16 Nov., 1694; baptized 4 (*sic*) Nov., 1694; married Abigail Rogers.

7- 7 ELIZABETH, born 10 Nov., 1697; married Richard Towne.

8- 8 JACOB, born 29 April, 1700; married Elizabeth Jewett; (2) Sarah Younglove.

9- 9 JEMIMA, born 26 Jan., 1702-3; baptized 4 March, 1702-3; married Joseph Towne.

10 MARY, named in deed of father to son Nathan. Perhaps that "Mary, child of Benjamin," baptized May, 1707.

11 ?KEZIA, "child of Benjamin," baptized 4 Nov., 1711.

BENJAMIN BIXBY took the oath of allegiance at Topsfield in 1677 and 1678. He was the only person by the name of Bixby in either Topsfield or Boxford who took the oath.<sup>4</sup> In 1681 he was listed in the minister's rate at five shillings. His brother Joseph paid the same, and their father paid one pound. Benjamin was the only one of the family taxed in Topsfield, 3 Oct., 1687. He paid three shillings six pence in the "country" rate, taxed on one head (poll), one house, three acres of land, four cows, three sheep, and fourteen hogs. The following year he paid three shillings one penny on one head and seventeen pounds estate<sup>5</sup>. By deed "sealed 2

<sup>1</sup> Thompson church records.

<sup>3</sup> Interleaved almanac.

<sup>2</sup> Pomfret Probate records, I: 149; II: 47.

<sup>4</sup> Essex Deeds, Ipswich series, IV.

<sup>5</sup> N. E. Hist. Geneal. Reg., 35: 34.

March, 1689," acknowledged 8 July, 1696, Joseph Bixby, Sr., of Boxford, in consideration of forty pounds paid by Benjamin Bixby "my son, now living in Topsfield," conveyed to him 32 acres in Topsfield.<sup>1</sup> Benjamin held various town offices in Topsfield between 1692 and 1712, inclusive. He was the only one of the name taxed in Topsfield in 1723 and 1725.<sup>2</sup> He did not leave a will, having disposed of his estate during his lifetime. There is recorded with Essex Deeds, 43: 241, a deed, in which his wife joins, dated 2 Nov., 1722, whereby he granted to his son Nathan one half his lands, the house Nathan dwelt in, half his barn, etc., in all about fifty acres of land; and also the other half on condition that Nathan maintained his parents and paid their burial expenses, and should also pay to his sisters, Mary, Elizabeth, and Jemima, £5, as required, but not later than their marriage, and to his brothers, Caleb and Samuel, £1. Power to dispose of the lands for his own advantage was reserved by the grantor provided Nathan failed to meet his obligations. Nathan also inherited his father's right as a proprietor in the common lands of Topsfield.<sup>3</sup> In 1733 Nathan disposed of his property in Topsfield for £652 and removed to Killingly, accompanied probably by his mother. The deed from Benjamin to Nathan was witnessed by Mary and Jacob Bixby.

## 17

II. GEORGE BIXBY (*Joseph*), probably born at Boxford, Mass., about 1660-65; died according to the Bixby Ms. in 1739, but as he was last taxed in 1729<sup>4</sup> it is likely he died that or the following year. He married REBECCA.

*Children, recorded at Boxford:*

- 1 NATHANIEL, born 1 March, 16—; baptized at Topsfield, Mass., 16 July, 1693; died 9 March, 1702-3,<sup>5</sup> at Boxford.

- 2- 2 GIDEON, born 1 Sept., 1699; married Rebecca Foster.

GEORGE BIXBY is said to have been a merchant. His house in 1692, may have stood near his field, which was considered a central point for the erection of the meeting-house. The committee appointed by the town to find a site for the meeting-house reported that George

<sup>1</sup> Essex Deeds, 35: 61.

<sup>2</sup> Essex Deeds, 36: 34.

<sup>3</sup> Coll. Topsfield Hist. Soc., III.

<sup>4</sup> Perley: Dwellings of Boxford.

<sup>5</sup> This date is given in the Bixby Ms. The year is illegible on the record. The editor of the "Vital Records" suggests 1701-2. Nor can the year of birth be read, it was probably 1693.



Bixby's field was seven miles from Wills Hill (Middleton), eight miles from the farthest point of our land near Merrimack, two and a quarter miles from the eight mile tree (in Andover line), and two and one half miles the nearest way from Rowley line. Two years later it was voted to set the meeting-house between the houses of George Bixby and William Peabody, the building to be 34 feet by 30 feet.

In spite of this vote the meeting-house was not erected until 1701, and then not on the above described site, but on a small hill at the northern corner of the cemetery in the East village, near the present church. While these preparations for a meeting house at Boxford were being made, there had arisen some friction between members of the Topsfield church resident in Topsfield and their Boxford brethren and neighbors. It was naturally distasteful to the majority of the old church to have the support of the Boxford people withdrawn. The Boxford members of the congregation felt that they were not granted the consideration due them. When finally Boxford procured a minister and were in a position to organize their church, the Topsfield church dismissed for that purpose eleven male members, of whom Jonathan Bixby was one. This was 4 Oct., 1702. After the ordination, in December of that year of Rev. Thomas Symms, the Topsfield church dismissed, in January, 1702-3, ten women members to the church at Boxford, among them widow Bixby (widow of sergeant Joseph), and Sarah, wife of Jonathan Bixby.<sup>1</sup> Joseph Bixby was dismissed on the 21 Feb., 1703, and Abigail Bixby 25 April, 1705. It is thought the Boxford church then numbered fifty members.<sup>2</sup>

In 1706 George Bixby had charge of the meeting-house.<sup>1</sup> He and his wife had been admitted to the church in 1704.

He was surveyor of highways in 1690.<sup>3</sup> His homestead descended to his son Gideon as will be seen under Gideon (172). Descendants of George Bixby are found in Boxford, bearing the family name.

## 18

II. JONATHAN BIXBY (*Joseph*), born at Boxford, Mass., probably about 1666-7; died 1717; married 2 Feb., 1691-2,<sup>4</sup> SARAH SMITH<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Gage: History of Rowley, p. 113.

<sup>2</sup> Perley: History of Boxford.

<sup>3</sup> Town records.

<sup>4</sup> Topsfield records. Perley gives the marriage of Jonathan as 1692-3, presumably from the Boxford town records, but the year is lost in the original.

<sup>5</sup> Sarah, daughter of William Smith, was born at Topsfield, 10 July, 1674. Possibly she was the wife of Jonathan Bixby.

"of Topsfield," who was probably deceased 1 July, 1727, when Thomas Page was appointed guardian of her daughter Susanna.

*Children, born at Boxford:*<sup>1</sup>

- 1- 1 LYDIA, born 3 Feb. (1694); baptized 6 May, 1694, at Topsfield, Mass.; married Thomas Page.
- 2- 2 JONATHAN, born 5 March, 1695-6; baptized 31 May, 1696, at Topsfield; married Ruth Fuller.
- 3- 3 RUTH, born 10 April, 1699; married Thomas Andrews.
- 4- 4 MARY, born 7 Feb., 1701-2; baptized 28 June, 1702, at Topsfield; married Nathaniel Sanders.
- 5 NATHANIEL, born 23 July, 1704; died 18<sup>1</sup> (28)<sup>2</sup> April, 1724. He is undoubtedly that Nathaniel Bigsbey "of York" whose name appears on a muster roll of the company commanded by Capt. Jeremiah Moulton, covering the period 28 Jan., 1724-5 to 11 May, 1725. The three last names on the roll are without dates of service and are stated to have been omitted from the last roll. This last roll covered the period 21 Nov., 1724, to 28 Jan., 1724-5. The period of service for which pay was due Nathaniel Bigsbey was 9 weeks and 6 days only. In the column where the place of residence should appear are ditto marks, evidently a careless error, and because of this his residence has been given as York. Several of the men under Moulton were from Ipswich and Topsfield. Westbrook wrote to the Governor of the numerous cases of illness among the troops, which appeared to be brief but fatal, and in a list of those deceased returned the name of Nathaniel Bigsbey as dying 28 April, 1724. He was probably one of those men who were stationed at Richmond. His death is also found on Boxford records, without further explanation, nor is other notice of his military experience found.
- 6- 6 ELIAS, born 23 Nov., 1706; baptized Aug. (*sic*), 1706; married Elinor Andrews.
- 7 WILLIAM, born 6 March, 1708-9; died probably prior to 1717.
- 8 JANE, born 5 Oct., 1711; died probably prior to 1717.
- 9- 9 SUSANNA, baptized 29 June, 1713, at Boxford; married Daniel Johnson.
- 10 REBECCA, born 26 Sept., 1716; married 26 Aug., 1737, at Haverhill, Nathan Smith of Boxford.<sup>3</sup>

JONATHAN BIXBY was a farmer. He was active in town and parish. He was one of the selectmen of Boxford in 1695. In 1701 he was fence-viewer, and in 1703 tythingman. He with other Boxford members were dismissed from the Topsfield church to form a church in Boxford in 1702. He was again selectman in 1706 and in 1716. In 1710, with Timothy Foster, he was called "heir" to Francis Peabody's share of Maple and Land meadows. In another deed they are called the "rightful owners" of Peabody's share.<sup>4</sup> They had become "heirs" by purchase.

Jonathan Bixby's will, dated 21 Jan., 1716-7, was proved 20 May, 1717. He named his wife, children Jonathan, Lydia Page, Nathaniel, Ruth, Mary, Susanna, Rebecca, Elias, the last six under age.

<sup>1</sup> Boxford records.

<sup>2</sup> Mass. Archives. List of soldiers died, etc., under command of Col. Thomas Westbrook. See N. E. Hist. Gen. Reg., 45: 218.

<sup>3</sup> Haverhill Vital Records.

<sup>4</sup> Essex Deeds, 24: 209; 35: 72.

## THIRD GENERATION



### THIRD GENERATION.

#### III

III. JOSEPH BIXBY (*Joseph, Joseph*), born 29 March, 1683, at Boxford, Mass.; died probably at Hopkinton, Mass., or Framingham, Mass. There is no record of his death or settlement of his estate. He married 4 Jan., 17—, at Boxford, LYDIA PEABODY.<sup>1</sup> Lydia, "widow of Joseph Bixby", died 9 March, 1765, at Framingham.<sup>2</sup>

*Children,<sup>3</sup> all born at Boxford:*

- 1- 1 LYDIA, born 26 Dec., 17—; baptized July, 1708, at Topsfield, Mass.; married David Foster.<sup>4</sup>
- 2- 2 JOSEPH, born 10 Sept., 1710; married Mehitable Rugg.
- 3- 3 ABNER, born 30 Aug., 1712 (recorded at Hopkinton); baptized 28 Sept., 1712; married Thomasine Nurse.
- 4 BETHIA, baptized 10 Jan., 1714-5, at Boxford.

JOSEPH BIXBY is styled "junior" in 1710, and is variously described as "weaver" and "husbandman." Like many, if not most, of the farmers of that day he had learned a trade, and doubtless worked at it during the long winter months, as time could be spared from the duties of the farm.

On the 10 June, 1727, he sold to John Andrews, Jr., of Boxford, twelve acres of land in Boxford "with dwelling house thereon, it being the house and part of the land that was my father's, Joseph Byxbe, deceased." The same day he sold to John Bixby, for £112, twenty six acres, part of the land which had belonged to his father. The following March he sold five other parcels of land in Boxford. On the 24 May, 1728, he took title from Nathan Peabody to a sixth part of the undivided land adjoining his farm and land near Andover line, and on the same day sold to Peabody eighteen acres in Boxford, and to Richard Kimball thirty five acres with dwelling house and

<sup>1</sup> Boxford records. The printed "Vital Records" suggest the date 1705-6. The Boxford records are much worn, and many dates lost. Mr. J. W. Searles (11127.J8) states she was the daughter of Jonathan Peabody. It would appear more probable that she was the daughter of Joseph and Bethia (Bridges) Peabody, born 4 Feb., 1683, at Boxford.

<sup>2</sup> Framingham records, Vol. II.

<sup>3</sup> Boxford records, but the baptism of Lydia is found on Topsfield church records.

<sup>4</sup> Church records, Hopkinton.

half a saw mill,<sup>1</sup> also meadow in Andover next to George Bixby's meadow and two other parcels of land. The same day, he took title from George Bixby, Richard Kimball and Jonathan Bixby to 100 acres in Boxford, including the lot on which "old sergeant Bixby" had lived. Doubtless the conveyances to him were to perfect his title to some of the land he was selling.<sup>2</sup> Following these transactions he removed to Hopkinton, where perhaps his brother Thomas had preceded him. He, his wife, and his children, Joseph, Lydia and Abner, and his brother Thomas, were admitted to the church at Hopkinton, 1 Dec., 1728.<sup>3</sup>

Joseph Bixby was evidently regarded as an acquisition to the settlement. He was chosen selectman and served from 1728 to 1732. He was chosen deacon of the church 18 Aug., 1730, ruling elder 20 June, 1731, and was ordained as elder 4 June the following year.<sup>4</sup>

In 1749 he appears to have been a resident of Framingham as his son, Joseph, is styled "Jr." in a town vote of that year.<sup>5</sup>

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III. SARAH BIXBY (*Joseph, Joseph*), born 3 Aug., 1685, at Boxford<sup>6</sup> Mass.; died in the lifetime of her husband. She married, 12 Dec., 1726, at Eastham, Mass., JAMES HIGGINS, born 22 July, 1688,<sup>6</sup> at Eastham, died 1777, son of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Rogers)<sup>7</sup> Higgins. James Higgins left a will from which it is learned that his wife was not living, that he had a daughter Dorcas Taylor, daughter Rebecca, deceased, wife of Thomas Rogers, daughter Hannah, deceased, wife of Benjamin Higgins, and grandchildren, Hezekiah Higgins and Hannah Freeman.

<sup>1</sup> In 1710, the proprietors of the common lands voted to permit Richard Kimball, Ephraim Dorman and Samuel Fisk to set up a saw mill on Fishing Brook on the "soels" near Joseph Bixby's house. Perley is authority for statement that this privilege was in use in 1878.

<sup>2</sup> Essex Deeds, 46:123, 145; 50:202, 204; 51:97; 99:121.

<sup>3</sup> Another correspondent who examined these records reports this date as 1727.

<sup>4</sup> Church records, Hopkinton. The church was organized 2 Sept., 1724. Hopkinton was named for Edward Hopkinton who bequeathed to trustees a fund, the income of which was to be used for a grammar and theological school at Cambridge and for books for meritorious students at Harvard College. The trustees purchased the Indian lands in what is now Hopkinton in 1711, and in 1723 were empowered to grant leases. Certain common lands and a plantation called Moguncoy were established as Hopkinton 13 Dec., 1715.

<sup>5</sup> Temple: History of Framingham, p. 404.

<sup>6</sup> Eastham town records.

<sup>7</sup> See will of Lt. Joseph Rogers, Jan., 1677-8, printed in Mayflower Descendant, III:67.



Sarah Higgins testified, in the law suit between Joshua and Priscilla Higgins and their brother, Joseph Bixby, that when she lived with her father he kept a book of accounts. She was incapable of appearing in court at Barnstable, because of bodily infirmity, so gave this evidence at Eastham, 13 Jan., 1727-8.<sup>1</sup>

*Children:*<sup>2</sup>

- 1 DORCAS HIGGINS, born (1728?); married 3 Oct., 1751, at Eastham, Isaac Taylor.<sup>3</sup> "Widow Dorcas Taylor" died 1805, at Orleans.<sup>4</sup>
- 2 REBECCA HIGGINS, not living in 1777; married Thomas Rogers.
- 3 HANNAH HIGGINS, born 6 June, 1744; not living in 1777; married Benjamin Higgins.<sup>5</sup>
- 4 HEZEKIAH HIGGINS, born 26 Feb., 1750.

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III. PHEBE BIXBY (*Joseph, Joseph*), born 19 April, 1690, at Boxford, Mass.; married there 18 March, 1713, SAMUEL PICKARD,<sup>6</sup> son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Hale) Pickard,<sup>7</sup> who was born at Rowley, Mass., Dec., 1689,<sup>8</sup> and who had a second wife, Lydia (Clark), in 1747, in which year he sold his farm of 120 acres in Boxford to Deacon Aaron Kimball.<sup>8</sup>

*Children, born at Boxford:*<sup>6</sup>

- 1 SAMUEL PICKARD, baptized 14 May, 1714.
- 2 PHEBE PICKARD, baptized 28 July, 1723.
- 3 JONATHAN PICKARD, baptized Oct., 1726.

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III. JOHN BIXBY (*Joseph, Joseph*), born 26 July, 1692, at Boxford, Mass. Administration was granted on his estate to Andrew Bixby of Souhegan West, N. H., a son, 26 Feb., 1745-6.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Suffolk Files, 21,407.

<sup>2</sup> The births of the two youngest children are found on Orleans records.

<sup>3</sup> Orleans records.

<sup>4</sup> Mayflower Descendant, VIII:184.

<sup>5</sup> "Wife of Benjamin Higgins" died 1773 at South Parish, Eastham, now Orleans. (*Mayflower Descendant*, VII:184.) "Wife of Hezekiah Higgins" died 1777. Benjamin Higgins, aged 60, died 1777. "Wife of James Higgins" died 1774. (*Ibid.*, 185.) Orleans was set off in 1797. Isaac Freeman and Thankful Higgins were married 25 Nov., 1756.

<sup>6</sup> Boxford Vital Records.

<sup>7</sup> Ms. in possession of John W. Searles (11127.J8). The birth of Samuel Pickard, son of Samuel and Elizabeth, is found on Rowley records. The elder Samuel was "captain." He married Elizabeth Hale, who lived long into the following century. There is also the record of marriage of Samuel Pickard with Hepzibeth Hale, 31 May, 1687, but children are not found on those records attributed to this couple. See Rowley records in Essex Institute Hist. Col.

<sup>8</sup> Perley: Dwellings of Boxford.

<sup>9</sup> N. H. Probate Records, 15:574.

He married 8 May, 1722, at Boxford, ESTHER ANDREWS,<sup>1</sup> born 16 Feb., 1692-3,<sup>1</sup> daughter of Sergeant Thomas and Rebecca Andrews. She was living in 1740.

*Child:*<sup>2</sup>

1- 1 ANDREW, born 14 Nov., 1723;<sup>1</sup> married Susanna Cole.

JOHN BIXBY was probably in the military service of the colony in 1718 or 1719. There is a Council record of 10 Dec., 1719, ordering payment of £5-15 to reimburse him for his ransom from the Indians, and the Colonial Treasurer's accounts note the payment of that sum to Thomas Pearley for the use of John Bigsby.

The real estate of Joseph Bixby was settled upon his sons John and Joseph. The former had also eight acres of land in Andover, which he bought of Richard Barker, Sr., in 1722. In 1730 he sold 25 acres in Middleton, and in 1740 two parcels of land in Boxford, of which the larger contained 40 acres and had buildings on it, to Thomas Hale. His wife, Esther, joined in this deed.<sup>3</sup>

Either this or the following year, John Bixby removed to Amherst, N. H., then known as Souhegan West, in order to settle upon the grant made to the survivors of the Narraganset campaign or to their heirs, he having been assigned his father's right.<sup>4</sup> The first meeting of the Souhegan proprietors was held at Salem, Mass., 17 July, 1735, and a committee appointed to lay out home lots of 60 acres each. At a subsequent meeting John Bixby was added to this committee, which reported 1 May, 1735, that 120 home lots had been laid out, probably the preceding winter, and it is likely that Bixby's first visit to Amherst was at that time.<sup>5</sup>

In deeds he is variously described as husbandman and cordwainer.

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III. THOMAS BIXBY (*Joseph, Joseph*), born 2 April, 1696, at Boxford, Mass.; died probably early in 1776, at Hopkinton, Mass.; married (published 22 April, 1722) ALICE CUMMINGS, born 10 Dec., 1695, died 30 April, 1734, at Hopkinton, daughter of Isaac and

<sup>1</sup> Boxford Vital Records.

<sup>2</sup> The Bixby Ms. names a son Jonathan, who is said to have lived at Amherst. No trace has been found of such a person.

<sup>3</sup> Essex Deeds, 44:160; 80:69; 82:53.

<sup>4</sup> Bodge: King Philip's War.

<sup>5</sup> For these early proceedings see Secomb's History of Amherst, N. H.

Alice (Howlett) Cummings.<sup>1</sup> She was admitted to the church at Hopkinton 14 Oct., 1733.<sup>2</sup> Thomas Bixby married, second, HANNAH ———, who was admitted to the church at Hopkinton, 18 March, 1739, by letter from the church in Framingham.<sup>2</sup> She was living in 1761.<sup>3</sup>

THOMAS BIXBY settled in Hopkinton, in that part now Ashland, probably in 1727. He was admitted to the church there 1 Dec., 1728, at the same time his brother and his family were admitted. He was one of the petitioners for a grant of a township in New Hampshire, now Hopkinton, and in 1761 joined with Thomas Hayward and his wife, Hannah, in selling a fifty acre lot there.<sup>4</sup> Administration on his estate was granted 27 March, 1776, to John Jones. His homestead of 67 acres was mortgaged. He had also another tract of 28 acres. There was due Harvard College a small quit rent. The total of the inventory came to £174-4-5. In the settlement of the estate Thomas and Pelatiah Bixby and Phineas How are described as heirs, the latter probably as guardian of the children of Isaac Bixby deceased. The homestead is now covered by Basin C of the Metropolitan Water Works.

*Children, except the eldest, born at Hopkinton:*<sup>5</sup>

- 1 ALICE, born 25 Feb., 1725-6, at Boxford. She probably died 7 Nov., (1735) 1736. The Bixby Ms. records the birth of a youngest child of this name, in April, 1734. No record of birth or baptism can be found on town or church records to substantiate this statement. The name Alice often appears as Allis and Ellis.
- 2- 2 SARAH, born 28 June, 1728,<sup>6</sup> married William Richards.
- 3- 3 THOMAS, born 28 Jan., 1729-30; baptized same month; married Lois Walker.
- 4- 4 PELATIAH, born 9 Aug.; baptized 15 Aug., 1731; married Ann Stone.
- 5- 5 ISAAC, born 9 Aug., 1733; baptized (5) 1 April, 1741; married Mary Crooks.

<sup>1</sup> Essex Deeds, 49:64, also 132:146. Pelatiah Bixby of Hopkinton in his own right, Anne his wife, and in right of Thomas Bixby, Jr., and Lois his wife, and Sarah, wife of William Richards of Southboro, convey to Joseph Cummings, Jr., one-sixth part of the real estate of grandfather Isaac Cummings of Ipswich, deceased, being 8½ acres, with buildings etc., 19 June, 1770. A brief genealogy of the Cummings family may be found in Collections Topsfield Hist. Soc., 5:10. Alice Howlett was daughter of Thomas Howlett.

<sup>2</sup> Church records, Hopkinton.

<sup>3</sup> N. H. Deeds, 85:416.

<sup>4</sup> N. H. Town Charters, Vol. 28, and N. H. Deeds, 85:416.

<sup>5</sup> Hopkinton town records. Hopkinton births to 1757 are to be found in N. E. Hist. Geneal. Register, Vol. 14. The church and town records were examined for the purpose of this genealogy by a member of the family. Differences from the printed Vital Records are noted by insertion of questionable dates in brackets.

<sup>6</sup> Sarah was probably baptized 7 July, 1728. Church records are said to give this date as 1726. Probably a misreading.

III. HANNAH BIXBY<sup>1</sup> (*Joseph, Joseph*), born 1 Dec., 1699, at Boxford, Mass.; married 28 Feb., 1736-7, RICHARD TOWNE, son of Thomas and Sarah (French) Towne of Topsfield, Mass., as his second wife. He was born 16 July, 1700, died "an aged man," 21 Feb., 1765. His first wife was Elizabeth Bixby (137), by whom he had two children surviving at the time of his second marriage.

Richard Towne was town clerk of Topsfield for sixteen years, 1749-1765. See Elizabeth Bixby (137).

*Children, born at Topsfield:*

- 1 RICHARD TOWNE, born 1 Jan., 1737-8; died 1739.
- 2 HANNAH TOWNE, born 8 Dec., 1739; died "26 or 28 Feb., 1802, aged sixty two years;"<sup>2</sup> married Daniel Esty, born 4 May, 1739, died 22 July, 1830, son of Aaron and Esther (Richards) Esty. He was of Topsfield and responded, 19 April, 1775, to the Lexington Alarm, being in a company commanded by Capt. Joseph Gould. His will is dated 10 Jan., 1827.<sup>3</sup> Daniel Esty was a grandson of Isaac Esty, whose mother, Mary (Towne), wife of Isaac Esty, Sr., was twice tried for witchcraft in 1692 and being convicted in the second trial was hung, 23 Sept., 1692. She has been called "the self-forgetful" because of the character she showed during this trying time. Her sister, Rebecca Nurse, also suffered death for the same imaginary crime. Esther (Richards) Esty, the mother of Daniel Esty, died 23 July, 1805, at the age of one hundred years and sixteen days. She is said to have been born in Southboro.

*Children:*

1. Mary Esty, born 28 May, 1766; died 17 April, 1846.
2. Daniel Esty, born 29 May, 1768; died 7 May, 1790.
3. Richard Esty, born 14 Feb., 1771; died 5 Jan., 1853.
4. Enos Esty, born 10 Dec., 1773; died 26 Feb., 1848.
5. Sarah Esty, born 12 Oct., 1775; married Oliver Peabody.
6. Hannah Esty, born 24 April, 1778; married Elijah Gould.
7. Abigail Esty, born 7 Nov., 1780; married William Homan.
8. John Esty, born 28 March, 1785.

III. MOSES BYXBEE (*Joseph, Joseph*), born 20 July, 1704, at Boxford, Mass.; died probably late in 1776.<sup>4</sup> He married 18 March,

<sup>1</sup> "Widow Hannah Towne" died 28 Sept., 1760. Another "widow Hannah Towne," died 15 April, 1778. (*Topsfield church records*.)

<sup>2</sup> See *Topsfield Hist. Soc. Col.*, 5: 115, Esty Genealogy; where, however, Daniel's wife's name does not appear.

<sup>3</sup> Essex Probate, 407: 473. His will names children, Richard Esty, Enos Esty, Abigail Homan, and John Esty; also grandchildren bearing the names Peabody, Homan, and Esty.

<sup>4</sup> His will, dated 29 Nov., 1760, was probated 16 Jan., 1777. He named his wife, two sons, John and Moses, to whom he gave equal shares in his estate, and two daughters, Elizabeth Warrin and Phoebe Bouton. (*Fairfield Probate Records*.)



1724, at Eastham, Mass., PHEBE HOPKINS,<sup>1</sup> born there 11 March, 1702, daughter of Joshua and Mary (Cole) Hopkins.<sup>2</sup>

*Children, all but the last recorded at Orleans, Mass.:*

- 1 JOSEPH, born 1 Jan., 1725-6; died in infancy.
- 2 JOSEPH, born 23 March, 1729-30; died 1750-1, probably unmarried. "Joseph Byxbe" of Barnstable, Mass., purchased of Thomas Hayes, 11 June, 1750, two acres of land at Elies Neck in Norwalk, Conn.<sup>3</sup> Administration on his estate was granted 12 March, 1750-1, to Moses Byxbe of Norwalk. He is said by Selleck, apparently without authority, to have married a sister of Joseph Warrin, whose ancestry does not appear in Selleck's Norwalk nor in the "Short History of the Warings" (1898) by R. N. Waring. The marriages of the daughters of Edmund Warring of Oyster Bay, N.Y., and Norwalk, are known.
- 3- 3 ELIZABETH, born 3 Dec., 1731; married Joseph Waring.
- 4- 4 PHOEBE, born 21 Dec., 1734; married Esaias Bouton.
- 5- 5 JOHN, born 2 March, 1736-7; married Elizabeth Waring.
- 6- 6 MOSES, married Elizabeth Hayt.

MOSES BYXBEE and his descendants have generally adhered to the spelling Byxbee. Moses and his brothers spelled their names so when receipting for the shares in their father's estate, but Moses was the only one to continue that style. His father's name is found on Boxford records as Biggisby and Bixbe, the latter being the style used in entering Moses' birth. In Eastham, the name appears as Bixbee, and in Orleans as Bigsbee and Bixbe. The spelling Byxbe was much in use by various members of the family in the second quarter of the 18th century. Like Bigsby, a more common form, the use of the "y" in the first syllable of the name often appears in a more or less erratic fashion in many branches of the family.

Moses Byxbee purchased of John Raymond, both being described as of Norwalk, 1 Nov., 1749, about seven acres land near Rheoton Brook, including a house and orchard, etc. The consideration was £600 Old Tenor.<sup>4</sup>

*Moses Byxbee*<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Town records.

<sup>2</sup>Selleck; History of Norwalk, Conn.; where it is stated that Joshua Hopkins was seventh of nine children of Giles and Catherine (Whelden) Hopkins who were married in 1639. Giles was one of the two sons of Stephen Hopkins by his first wife, a passenger on the Mayflower in 1620. Mary Cole was daughter of Daniel and Mary Cole of Eastham, born 10 March, 1658; died 1 March, 1734. She is buried at Orleans. (*N. E. Hist. Gen. Reg.*, Vol. 21.) Joshua and Mary (Cole) Hopkins had the following children: John, Abigail, Elisha, Lydia, Mary, Joshua, Hannah and Phebe, the last named born 11 March, 1702.

<sup>3</sup>Norwalk Deeds, 10:285.

<sup>4</sup>Norwalk Land Records, 10:236. John Byxbee, son of Moses Byxbee, purchased of Simeon Raymond, 24 Sept., 1760, 48 acres at Rheoton, bounded on land of the said John Byxbee, near Messenger's swamp. (*Ibid.*, p. 409.)

<sup>5</sup>Signature of Moses Byxbee from his will. (*Fairfield Probate Records.*)

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III. HANNAH BIXBY<sup>1</sup> (*Daniel, Joseph*), born 13 Dec., 1679, at Andover, Mass.; died 4 May, 1724; married<sup>2</sup> 4 Nov., 1714, at Andover, STEPHEN BARNARD, who died 31 July, 1758, son of Stephen and Rebecca (Howe) Barnard of Andover. Stephen Barnard, Jr., was a husbandman. He and his wife joined with Mephibosheth Bixby and Mary, his wife, and George Holt and Mary, his wife, in quitclaiming to their brother, Joseph Bixby, their share in their father's estate, 3 June, 1717.<sup>3</sup>

*Children, born at Andover:*

- 1 HANNAH BARNARD, born 27 Jan., 1715; died 24 May, 1752, at Andover; married 21 Nov., 1736, Hezekiah Stiles of Andover, baptized May, 1711, son of Ebenezer and Dorothy (Dalton) Stiles of Middleton.  
Children:<sup>4</sup>
  1. Hannah Stiles, born 10 Jan., 1739; died 18 May, 1752.
  2. Stephen Stiles, born 11 March, 1741; married Huldah (Chandler) Wardwell and removed to Hillsboro, N. H.
  3. Barnard Stiles, born 28 June, 1744; married Sarah ———, and removed to Canterbury, N. H.
  4. Dorothy Stiles, born 29 Jan., 1752; died 12 July, 1753.
- 2 STEPHEN BARNARD, born 17 Dec., 1718; died 26 Dec., 1718.
- 3 REBECCA BARNARD, twin with Stephen; married Moses Scales and removed to Concord.

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III. THOMAS BIXBY (*Daniel, Joseph*), born 18 Dec., 1681, at Andover, Mass.; died 5 Dec., 1754, at Chelmsford, Mass.; married 8 Dec., 1703, at Andover, DEBORAH ELKINS, daughter of Eliazer Elkins.<sup>5</sup>

Tewksbury church records note the death of "widow Bixby, of old age, at Joseph Blanchard's," 29 June, 1761.

*Children:*<sup>6</sup>

- 1-1 DEBORAH, undoubtedly the "child" born 9 Oct., 1704, at Andover; married Henry Stevens.

<sup>1</sup> Information concerning this family was obtained from Andover records, and *Essex Antiquarian* 6:126, except where other authority is quoted.

<sup>2</sup> As Hannah Baxby.

<sup>3</sup> *Essex Probate*, 312:81.

<sup>4</sup> *Guild: Stiles Genealogy*, p. 76. Hezekiah Stiles died later than 20 Nov., 1782, when he conveyed all of his estate in Andover to his son Hezekiah. (*Essex Deeds*, 140:131.) There is no settlement of his estate on record. He married (2) 27 Dec., 1752, Harriet Lovejoy, by whom he had: Hannah Stiles, Dorothy Stiles, Mehitable Stiles, Hezekiah Stiles.

<sup>5</sup> Thomas Bigsby of Andover in right of his wife Deborah, daughter of Eliazer Elkins, and Jasper and Abiah Elkins, son and daughter of said Eliazer, to their brother Samuel Elkins, 1708. (*N. H. Deeds*.)

<sup>6</sup> The second, fifth and seventh children are presumptive, no record of their birth or baptism or direct evidence of connection with Thomas (123) having been found. The facts we have about



- 2- 2 ?MORIAH, married James Barker; (2) Joseph Morse; (3) John Stevens.
- 3- 3 MARY, born March, 1710, at Andover; married Joseph Frost, Jr.; (2) Joseph Blanchard.
- 4 SARY, died 10 Aug., 1714, at Chelmsford.<sup>1</sup>
- 5- 5 ?SARAH,<sup>2</sup> married Samuel Haseltine, Jr.
- 6- 6 THOMAS, born 17 May, 1722;<sup>1</sup> married Phebe Spaulding.
- 7- 7 ?DANIEL, born about 1723;<sup>3</sup> married Catherine ———.

THOMAS BIXBY lived for a time in Middleton, Mass., whence he removed to Chelmsford as early as 1717. On the 19 Oct., 1722, he enlisted in the company commanded by Col. Eleazer Tyng, who lived at Dunstable, Mass., and served as "centinel" until discharged 29 Nov., 1722. He was on detached service under sergeant Joseph Varnum. He again enlisted 10 June, and served until 6 July, 1725. He also served from 2 Sept., to 3 Nov., 1725, in the same company. The campaigns of 1722 to 1725 were to protect the northern and eastern frontiers against the Indians, who were active in raiding the settlements. Brunswick, Me., was attacked in 1722 and the settlers' homes destroyed. The Indians were directed and encouraged by Father Rasle, a notorious Jesuit priest, with headquarters at Norridgewock, Me. His death, when the colonists captured that place in 1724, brought much relief to the frontier settlements. According to the military system of that period each regimental officer was also commander of a company. Centinel was the designation of a private soldier. The muster rolls of Tyng's company do not exist for the whole period of his service, which was continuous during all seasons from 1722 to 1725 inclusive. In 1725 his company was raised from the towns of Dunstable, Chelmsford, Woburn, Reading, Dracut, Groton, Leicester, Billerica, Londonderry, Concord, Hadley, Andover, Lexington, and Watertown. It consisted of 77 men enlisted as privates, including three Mohawk Indians. Twenty two of the men were from Chelmsford, to which

Moriah (123-2) and Sarah (123-5) however come from a section which leaves little question, but that they were children of Thomas (123). Daniel of Guysboro, N. S., is not heard of in the United States, except for a very persistent tradition among his descendants that he came from Connecticut. There are, however, no Connecticut families to which it would seem he could belong and, in fact, our records about the Bixby families in the United States in 1723 are so well worked out there seems to be no other family to which he could belong. See Daniel Bixby (1237).

<sup>1</sup> Chelmsford Vital Records.

<sup>2</sup> There is a note to effect that Sarah was born 15 Sept., 1712, but efforts to find the original records have been made in vain. The date may refer to date of Samuel Haseltine's birth, who died 21 Feb., 1788, in his 77th year.

<sup>3</sup> Records of Christ Church, Guysboro, N. S., which have the following: "Feb. 19, 1788, Daniel Bigsby frozen to death on Birch Island age sixty five years."

place belonged Lt. Jonathan Butterfield. One of the three sergeants, two of the four corporals, and twelve others came from Dunstable. At this time it would seem that a centinel was of rank higher than private, or else a private armed more heavily than the rest, as in this company there were four "centinels" and fifty eight "privates." The earliest enlistments were on May 20, the majority on June 10, but many were later. On June 15 there were sixty two privates and centinels in the ranks, but after the discharges of July, when the term of several men expired, there were but forty seven men in the ranks, several of whose terms expired prior to November 1, when the number of enlisted men were the same. Lt. Blanchard served but one day, Lt. Butterfield from June 10 to July 12, when his place was taken by Lt. John Tyng of Woburn, who served from July 9 until November. Most of the Chelmsford men served from June 10 until November 10. The frontiers were protected by soldiers impressed for short terms from the militia train bands. Col. Tyng was the officer ordered to march to the scene of Lovewell's defeat, 19 May, 1725, when news reached Boston of the failure of his expedition.<sup>1</sup> Tyng was a very efficient and active officer. Two of the Mohawks<sup>2</sup> assigned to his command died in the colony service.

It is quite probable that Thomas Bixby was in active service each year during the continuance of hostilities, scouting and ranging over the country from Groton, Mass., to Concord, N. H., and perhaps even further east and north.

The charter granted by William and Mary in 1691 placed the supreme command of the militia in the hands of the governor, and in his absence the lieutenant-governor, or, if neither of these officials were qualified to act, in the hands of the major part of the Council. The governor or his successor had the power of appointing another to act in his place as commander-in-chief, to commission military officers, to assemble and arm the inhabitants for war, to conduct expeditions by land or sea, to erect, equip, and demolish fortifications; but he was prohibited from using the militia beyond the limits of the province without their consent or that of the General Court.

The first act passed by the General Court after the promulgation of the new charter continued the laws already in force. At the session of 1693-4 an act regulating the militia was adopted.

<sup>1</sup> There is no muster roll of his company on this service.

<sup>2</sup> Isaac and Christian. Their families were living at Chelmsford. (*Council records.*)

All males between sixteen and sixty years of age, except councillors and representatives, justices of the peace, officers, students and servants of Harvard College, Masters of Arts, ministers, elders, deacons, sheriffs, physicians, school-masters, former officers of rank of or higher than ensign, certain colony, county and court officials, constables, ferrymen, one miller to each grist mill, herdsman, revenue officers, masters of vessels of above 30 tons burthen, and physically disabled persons, were obliged to attend musters and military exercises. Regimental musters could be held only once in three years, except in Boston, but each company or troop was obliged to be exercised by its commander four days in each year. Company clerks were to make quarterly returns of persons liable to militia duty. Each person so listed, and every householder, was ordered to be provided with suitable firearms, equipment, and ammunition, also a good sword or cutlass. If he belonged to the troop he must be provided with a good horse of at least £5 value, with equipment, carbine, pistols, sword, etc., as well as ammunition. Boys of sixteen and servants just freed from masters were allowed three months in which to procure their equipment. Persons not providing the equipment required by law could have their property levied upon, or if single, could be put out to service until their earnings were sufficient to purchase it. In some cases equipments were provided at the cost of the town, which was required to maintain a sufficient stock of ammunition.

Sergeants and corporals were appointed by the chief company commander, during the latter's pleasure. The commissioned officers of a company appointed the clerk, who was severely penalized if he refused to serve.

The chief military officers in any town could set a military watch, and the persons detailed for that service were required to serve or find satisfactory substitutes.

Drums, trumpets and colors were provided at the charge of the companies or troops. A drummer received 20 shillings if he found his own drum, or half that if the captain found the drum. A trumpeter had double the compensation of a drummer.

Each regiment was permitted two troops of horse; each troop not to exceed sixty men, including the officers.

Punishment for neglecting the duties laid on the militiaman by this act embraced fines, being laid neck and heels, and riding the wooden horse.

Upon an alarm, three guns discharged in succession, or firing of a beacon, or by drum, every trained soldier and other person capable of bearing arms resident in the town were required to attend the rendezvous, under penalty of £5 or three months' imprisonment.

Persons exempted from training had to furnish themselves with arms.

Soldiers and sailors could not be billeted upon any inhabitant, except with the latter's consent, except at public houses.

Any person liable and fit for service could be detached upon service by order of his commanding officer, and had either to serve or provide a satisfactory substitute. Impressed men were paid until discharged, being allowed reasonable time to repair to their usual place of abode. Severe penalties were provided in case any person impressed should attempt to evade service, or should desert the service, the penalty in the latter case being death. Persons maimed in the service were to be relieved at the country's expense. If equipments were lost through no neglect of the soldier he was to be reimbursed; but if he lost the country's arms, without good cause, he was forced to make good their loss.

With some few changes these rules were in force through the whole period of the Indian and French wars.

Indians and negroes were exempt from trainings, but in 1707 it was enacted that free negroes and mulattoes could be set at public works to an extent equal to what their exemption might be worth. They were, however, forced to attend upon any alarm.

In 1702, on the plea that when warrants were issued for impressing soldiers the ablest and fittest for service were found to have absconded, it was enacted that each company commander should list a fourth part of the men in his company, they being the most fit for service, each man to be always in readiness.

In 1704, a special provision was enacted that frontier companies, to the extent of one-half their number, should be provided with snowshoes and moccasins, each man so provided to receive three shillings.

That same year it was also enacted that soldiers should attend daily prayers and sermon, or forfeit 12 pence, and for the second offence to be also put in irons for not longer than 12 hours. Any officer or soldier blaspheming the holy and undivided trinity, or persons of God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost, was to have his tongue bored with a red hot iron.



Unlawful oaths or execrations were punished with lying in the bilboes or running the gauntlet. Drunkenness, first offence, was punished with a fine, a second offence with riding the wooden horse one hour. Other laws provided for punishment of soldiers guilty of crime. A soldier who procured intoxicants on credit could not be forced to pay for them, and both he and the vendor were liable for a fine as well.

To offset these careful provisions for the welfare of the soldier and his proper punishment for moral delinquencies, the General Court in 1694 granted a bounty of ten pounds per head for every Indian killed or brought in by an enlisted soldier, a scalp being evidence of a dead Indian, and also granted them the proceeds of any plunder obtained. Volunteers going forth on their own account were granted fifty pounds for every Indian slain or brought in prisoner, no distinction being made of sex or age. For every Indian slain by defenders of a house or garrison a bounty of £5 was offered. This bounty was afterward increased to £100<sup>1</sup> but Indians less than ten years were excluded, these being reserved for sale for the benefit of their captors. Enlisted soldiers received a bounty of but a tenth of what the "volunteers" were offered. The premiums on scalps fluctuated. In 1695 the bounty on Indian women slain or captured, if fourteen years or less, was reduced to £25; and the bounty on children under ten was reduced to £10. It was to secure the scalp money that Lovewell's expedition was organized. His headhunting expedition can be considered today with little but disgust, even after taking into consideration the fear and hatred of the Indians felt by the settlers. The regularly enlisted men served for the protection of their homes and the frontiers, but free companies like Lovewell's, and to the credit of the country there were very few such expeditions during the twenty or more years that bounties were offered, were of little use in the defence of the country. Friendly Indians were notified to remain within certain bounds fixed by law. These bounty laws were passed only for limited periods, and were in effect only during the periods of actual hostilities, and were retaliatory measures adopted after the Indians' raids had commenced. Indian warfare has always been savage and to the death. It must not be forgotten that in Europe warfare at that time was responsible for many atrocities and that it is not long since that captured towns

<sup>1</sup> The New England pound was two thirds the pound sterling.



were given over to looting and massacre. "No quarter" has been a too common order on many a battlefield then and since.

## 125

III. JONATHAN BIXBY (*Daniel, Joseph*), probably born at Andover, Mass., about 1685; died 2 Nov., 1714.<sup>1</sup> He married 16 April, 1709, at Watertown,<sup>2</sup> Mass., RACHEL HOBART.

Administration on his estate was granted to his widow Rachel 6 Dec., 1714.<sup>3</sup> An inventory of his estate, taken 9 Nov., 1714, disclosed only personal property, amounting to £73, and a lease, having fourteen years to run, of 12 acres of land in Newton belonging to Henry Seager. Newton town records contain the following vote, under date of 3 July, 1702: "The way from the meeting house to Lower Falls shall be turned from Henry Seager's hill along by the country road by the house of John Staples."

Jonathan Bixby is said to have lived at Newton Upper Falls. His widow, Rachel, and her expected child are named in his father's will.

The following entries appear on the town treasurer's accounts: 27 Feb., 1717-18. Paid thomas Marshall for ye widdow bigsby, 10sh. 17 April, 1719. Paid to widow Bigsbye, 5sh.

*Children:*

1 (?) RACHEL,<sup>4</sup>

2 (?) HANNAH, born 30 April, 1715.<sup>5</sup>

## 126

III. DAVID BIXBY (*Daniel, Joseph*), born 16 Feb., 1687-8, at Andover, Mass.; died 1767. His will dated 30 April, 1764, was proved 3 Sept., 1767. He married 4 Aug., 1712, at Concord, Mass.,<sup>6</sup> ABIGAIL BUTTERFIELD,<sup>7</sup> born 4 June, 1693, living in 1764, daughter

<sup>1</sup> Newton town records.

<sup>2</sup> Watertown records. They were both "of Newton." According to the Hyde Diary in possession of the N. E. Hist. Geneal. Soc., they were married 6 May at Watertown.

<sup>3</sup> Middlesex Probate, 14: 198.

<sup>4</sup> This record is given as found in the Bixby Ms., probably taken from Jackson's History of Newton. If there was a child Rachel she probably died very soon after birth.

<sup>5</sup> Newton Vital Records. Nothing further is known of her unless she was that Hannah Bigsby who married 10 Aug., 1736, at East Enfield, Mass. (now Somers, Conn.), Joseph Felt. They were published 3 July, 1736, "both of Somers." Joseph Felt, son of Joseph and Hannah Felt, was born 19 July, 1738, at Somers.

<sup>6</sup> Concord Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

<sup>7</sup> Abigail Butterfield was one of a pair of twins: a characteristic of that line of the Butterfield family. David and Abigail Bixby are mentioned in the settlement of Joseph Butterfield's estate.

of Joseph and Lydia (Ballard) Butterfield, and granddaughter of William Ballard.<sup>1</sup>

*Children, except the eldest, recorded at Westford, Mass.:*

- 1 JONATHAN, born 17 Nov., 1714, at Chelmsford, Mass.; not mentioned in father's will.
- 2-2 ABIGAIL, born 13 April, 1716; married Zachariah Sartle.
- 3-3 LYDIA, born 22 Oct., 1717; married Obadiah Jenkins.
- 4 HANNAH, born 12 Sept., 1719; married 7 Dec., 1738, at Westford,<sup>2</sup> David Brown.
- 5-5 JOSEPH, born 2 May, 1721; not named in father's will; married Sarah Rhodes.
- 6-6 THANKFUL, born 15 Jan., 1724-5; married Jonathan Searles.
- 7-7 JACOB, born 12 Aug., 1728; married Eunice Heald.
- 8 DAVID, born 17 July, 1729; not mentioned in father's will.
- 9-9 ASA, born 24 Feb., 1734-5; married Susannah Howard; (2) Elizabeth Wilkinson.
- J-10 WILLIAM, born 19 July, 1737; married Mary ——; (2) Lydia Farrington.

DAVID BIXBY was of Chelmsford in May, 1717, when he joined with his brother Thomas in quitclaiming to their brother Joseph, of Andover, their share in their father's estate. He is styled weaver, in deeds. He lived in that part of Chelmsford<sup>3</sup> which was established as Westford in 1729 and was one of those who petitioned in 1719 to be set off to Littleton. His will devises all his "housel stufe" to his wife for her life, and at her death to his four daughters or their heirs. Sons Asa and William are mentioned, the latter to have half the estate and to be executor. To son Jacob's children, five shillings, which, with what their father had had, to be their share. No mention is made of the children of son Joseph, who was presumably deceased, nor of David or Jonathan, who had probably also died in the lifetime of their father.

Bixby Hill was long a landmark in Westford.

## 127

III. MEPHIBOSHETH BIXBY (*Daniel, Joseph*), born 3 April, 1690, at Andover, Mass.; died 20 March, 1767, at Winchendon,<sup>4</sup> Mass.; married 28 May, 1713, MARY EMMONS, born 26 Nov., 1683,<sup>5</sup> daugh-

<sup>1</sup> William Ballard of Andover, by wife Grace, had Lidda, born at Andover, 30 April, 1657. Lydia Ballard and Joseph Butterfield were married at Chelmsford, 12 Feb., 1674. There was a William Ballard of Lynn, member of the Artillery Company, 1638, whose widow, Elizabeth, married William Knight, prior to 1653.

<sup>2</sup> Information of Town Clerk of Westford. Hodgman in History of Westford gives the year as 1737.

<sup>3</sup> The West precinct was organized in 1724. His farm in late years was owned by Waldo Cummings (later by George O. Wright) and John M. Day.

<sup>4</sup> Town records, Winchendon.

<sup>5</sup> Paige: History of Cambridge.

ter of Thomas and Mary (Hancock)<sup>1</sup> Emmons of Cambridge, Mass. She was living in 1750.<sup>2</sup> A Mary Emmands was baptized at Cambridge, 28 Feb., 1696-7.<sup>3</sup> Administration on the estate of Mephibosheth Bixby of Winchendon, cordwainer, was granted to Daniel Bixby of Winchendon, 11 May, 1768.

*Children, all born at Andover:*

- 1- 1 DANIEL, born 31 Dec., 1713; married Tabitha ———.
- 2- 2 MARY, born Feb., 1715; married Joseph French.
- 3- 3 SAMUEL, born 31 Aug., 1716; married Mary Buck; (2) Sarah Beaman.
- 4 JONATHAN, born 31 March;<sup>4</sup> died 17 April, 1718.
- 5 DAVID, twin with Jonathan, died 23 April, 1718.
- 6- 6 NATHANIEL, born 24 March, 1719;<sup>5</sup> married Jerusha Houghton.
- 7- 7 MARTHA, born 2 March, 1722; married Phineas Ball.

MEPHIBOSHETH BIXBY removed from Andover to Woburn, Mass.,<sup>6</sup> in April, 1724, thence to Shrewsbury, Mass., where he bought 30 acres of land of Richard Davenport, 28 April, 1732. In the deed he is described as of Woburn, cordwainer. The purchase was part of the "Capt. Davenport farm." He bought 8 acres in 1741, bounding on Lancaster line. He conveyed the land he bought of Davenport to Nathaniel Bixby, 23 March, 1741-2. He sold land to Joseph French, 1746, and with wife, Mary, sold land in 1750.<sup>2</sup> He probably accompanied his son, Daniel, to Winchendon in 1761,<sup>7</sup> or possibly earlier. The birth of a child in 1713 to Mephibosheth is supposed to be the birth of Daniel, who had administration on his father's estate.

Miss Charlotte Abbott of Andover writes, "it is amusing to see how the town clerks of Andover struggled with the name Mephibosheth. In 1716 it was called Phebe, 1717 Phib, 1720 Mephib, Mephebeseth and Febesheth. In 1722 an educated man took charge and cut the poor fellow down to Mepheb, and in 1723 to Meb. In 1724 the name does not appear on the records." His death record at Winchendon is under the name Mesebuth.

In 1717 Mephibosheth sold 20 acres which his father had given him.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> She is named in will dated 5 Jan., 1717-8, proved 30 April, 1719, of her grandfather Nathaniel Hancock of Cambridge as Mary Bigsbe.

<sup>2</sup> Worcester Deeds, 30: 283.

<sup>3</sup> Cambridge Church Records.

<sup>4</sup> Andover Vital Records give the year 1718-9, undoubtedly an error for 1717-8.

<sup>5</sup> 1718-9 in Andover Vital Records. The year should be 1719.

<sup>6</sup> Middlesex Sessions, 9 March, 1724-5.

<sup>7</sup> "Mejhihoseeth Bixby last from Lancaster" was cautioned against by Shrewsbury, 10 May, 1763. (*Worcester Sessions.*)

<sup>8</sup> Essex Deeds, 42: 153.

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III. MARY BIXBY (*Daniel, Joseph*), born 10 April, 1693, at Andover, Mass.; died probably in Windham Co., Conn.; married 7 June, 1716, GEORGE HOLT, born 17 March, 1676-7, died 1748 in Windham Co., son of Henry and Sarah (Ballard) Holt of Andover. George Holt had been twice married, first to Elizabeth Farnum, who died in 1714, second, to Priscilla Preston, who died in 1716. His will was proved 29 June, 1748. He purchased land in Canada Parish, Windham Co., of Ebenezer Abbee, 22 Feb., 1726, in which year he probably removed from Andover.<sup>1</sup> In all George Holt had fourteen children.

*Children:*

- 1 MARY HOLT, baptized 4 March, 1716-7, at Andover. She is not mentioned in her father's will.
- 2 JONATHAN HOLT, baptized 28 Dec., 1718, at Andover; died 10 Dec., 1810, s. p.; married 12 April, 1738, Mary Parker.
- 3 JOSIAH HOLT, baptized 2 July, 1721; died in youth.
- 4 NEHEMIAH HOLT,<sup>2</sup> born 3 April, baptized 7 April, 1723; died 17 April, 1799, at Chaplin, Conn. He married 25 Nov., 1745, Anna Farnham, who died 1 April, 1810, aged 84 years. They had eleven children, five of whom died in 1754, while their father was serving in the army. The remaining six children, born after his return, were:
  6. Nehemiah Holt, born 28 Nov., 1756; died 5 June, 1724, at Chaplin.<sup>3</sup>
  7. Sarah Holt, born 12 Oct., 1758; married 1 Jan., 1783, Stephen Sparks.
  8. Martha Holt; born 20 Sept., 1760; died 24 April, 1849; married Joseph Clark, (2) Nathan Martin.
  9. Roxilena Holt, born 6 April, 1762; married Ebenezer M. Hitchcock and removed to Leicester, Vt.
  10. Anna Holt, born 6 July, 1765; died 10 Oct., 1806; married Amos Ford, Jr.
  11. Sabra Holt, born 12 Jan., 1768; married 1796, Justus Snow.
- 5 PRISCILLA HOLT, born 4 Sept., 1725; married 10 Nov., 1743, Ichabod Rogers.
- 6 HANNAH HOLT, born 11 March, 1730, at Hampton, Conn.; married 8 Oct., 1747, Jethro Rogers.
 

Children:

  1. Oliver Rogers, born 14 April, 1748, at Hampton.
  2. Bixbee Rogers, born 18 Dec., died 27 Dec., 1749.
- 7 SARAH HOLT, born 7 March, 1732, at Hampton; died 26 Oct., 1761.
- 8 NATHANIEL HOLT, born 18 March, 1734; married 16 Dec., 1756, Phebe Canada (Kennedy).
 

Children:

  1. Cynthia Holt, born 27 Sept., 1759, at Hampton.
  2. Lucy Holt.

<sup>1</sup> Holt: Genealogical Record of the Holt Family; also N. E. Hist. Geneal. Register, 15:315. In Hist. Geneal. Register, 55:48, is mention of a marriage of Mary Bixby and Elias Holt, and the birth of a daughter, Hannah Holt, in 1730, who married Jethro Rogers. The name Elias is error for George.

<sup>2</sup> Nehemiah is not entered by name in Andover Vital Records, in which publication are recorded the baptisms of children of George and Mary Holt born at Andover.

<sup>3</sup> He was with Washington during his retreat across New Jersey. He married 11 June, 1782, Mary Lamphear, who died 11 Dec., 1799; (2) 1 Jan., 1801, Sarah Dunlap of Plainfield, Conn., who died 7 Nov., 1808; (3) 10 Mar., 1809, Eunice Fuller, who died 31 Dec., 1846.



## 129

III. JOSEPH BIXBY (*Daniel, Joseph*), born 5 March, 1695-6, at Andover, Mass.; died 26 or 28 Aug., 1761; married 12 June, 1723, EXPERIENCE FROST, born 26 March, 1698, died 9 Sept., 1757, in her 60th year,<sup>1</sup> daughter of Thomas and Rebecca (Farley) Frost of Billerica.<sup>2</sup>

*Children, born at Andover:*

1- 1 EXPERIENCE, born 12 March, 1723-4; married William Abbott.

2- 2 HANNAH, born 19 Aug., 1726; married David Osgood.

JOSEPH BIXBY was a farmer. He occupied his father's homestead, which was quitclaimed to him by his brothers and sisters in May and June, 1717, those participating being Thomas and David Bixby, of Chelmsford, Mephibosheth Bixby and Mary, his wife, of Andover, Stephen Barnard, Jr., and Hannah, his wife, and George Holt and Mary, his wife. That same year he sold land which was laid out to the right of Daniel Bixby, and in 1722 an acre right which had formerly been his father's.<sup>3</sup> In 1728 and 1732 he joined with other heirs, in right of his wife, in selling land in Billerica to John Shed, Jr.<sup>4</sup>

Joseph Bixby was admitted to the church in Andover South Parish, 25 March, 1744.

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III. BENJAMIN BIXBY (*Benjamin, Joseph*), born 26 Nov., 1678, at Boxford, Mass.; died 1 Dec., 1744,<sup>5</sup> at Killingly North Parish, now Thompson, Conn.; married, prior to 1704, MARTHA LAMSON,<sup>6</sup> born 21 March, 1677, at Ipswich,<sup>7</sup> Mass., daughter of John and Martha (Perkins) Lamson. She was living in 1724, but probably died prior to 1738.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Andover Vital Records.

<sup>2</sup> Hazen: History of Billerica.

<sup>3</sup> Essex Deeds, 40:172; 41:165; and Essex Probate, 312:81.

<sup>4</sup> Middlesex Deeds, 35:490, 491.

<sup>5</sup> Cabot's Diary, quoted by Miss Ellen D. Larned.

<sup>6</sup> John Lamson of Ipswich married 17 Dec., 1669, Martha Perkins, by whom he had six children, the youngest being Martha who married Benjamin Bixby, who receipted for his wife's portion 1 Dec., 1713. (*Essex Probate*, 312:67.)

<sup>7</sup> County Court records at Salem, Mass.

<sup>8</sup> Martha Bixby, wife of Benjamin, joins in conveying land to Israel Richards of Salem, 25 Jan., 1724 (*Killingly Deeds*, 2:83), but does not appear in the deed of Benjamin to Caleb Bixby of 20 March, 1738, nor that of Benjamin to Jacob Bixby 14 Sept., 1742. (*Ibid.*, 4:126, 5:2.) These are the last transactions of Benjamin Bixby on record. Under Connecticut practice it was not necessary for the wife to join in conveying land except in certain instances, but in both of these transactions



*Children, baptized at Topsfield, Mass., except the youngest:*

- 1 BENJAMIN, born 18, baptized the 21 May, 1704; probably died in early life.
- 2 MARTHA, born 29 June, baptized 1 July, 1705.
- 3- 3 MARY, "of Benjamin,"<sup>1</sup> baptized 4 May, 1707; married Stephen Comins.
- 4- 4 JOHN, baptized 17 July, 1709; married Jemima Green.
- 5 KEZIAH, baptized "of Benjamin," 4 July, 1711.<sup>1</sup>
- 6- 6 RICHARD, born probably at Lynnfield (Lynn End), baptized at Reading (now Wakefield), 6 May, 1716;<sup>2</sup> married Esther (Giles) Taylor.

BENJAMIN BIXBY is usually styled "junior" on Topsfield records. He removed to Lynn in or prior to 1708 and was that year, and in 1710, elected hayward. On the 12 Jan., 1712-3, he bought four acres of meadow in Reading of Adam Hart, which he sold three years later, his wife, Martha, joining in the deed.<sup>3</sup> On the 29 April, 1716, he and wife, Martha, were admitted to the church in Reading, to which many of the residents of Lynnfield, then a part of Lynn, belonged. They were dismissed at their own request to the church in Killingly, Conn., 20 Oct., 1717.<sup>4</sup> The Killingly church records show that both were admitted to the church 26 Jan., 1717-8, "from Reading." They settled in that part of Killingly known as Brandy Hill, now a part of Thompson, and it is said erected a house there in 1719,<sup>5</sup> on the east side of the Boston road. This house was the "last out-post of civilization on the road from Connecticut, and was much frequented by travellers, Indians and lawless borderers." His homestead was occupied by Marcus Davis<sup>6</sup> when Miss Ellen D. Larned wrote her sketch of Killingly pioneers, published in the *Thompson Record*. "On one occasion, Mrs. Bixby, when alone,

it would seem, had she been living, Martha would have appeared. There is no deed on record from Benjamin to any one of his children. John, his eldest son, was a landowner prior to his father's death, and probably had such part of his father's real estate as was not deeded by Benjamin Bixby to others. There is no settlement of the estate on record.

<sup>1</sup> See under Benjamin (13). The order of baptism of these children seems to indicate that they were children of Benjamin and Martha, in spite of the fact that Benjamin was usually styled junior. His father had a daughter Mary, who may have been Mary (1323), as otherwise her baptism is not of record. Nothing further is known of Keziah, and it is possible she too was a daughter of Benjamin (13).

<sup>2</sup> Church records printed in Wakefield Vital Records. As he appears as grantee in 1734, he was probably born in 1712.

<sup>3</sup> Middlesex Deeds, 17: 580; 18: 401.

<sup>4</sup> Reading church records, at Wakefield.

<sup>5</sup> The earliest deed on record at Danielson, where the records of the town of Killingly are kept, of which either party was a Bixby, is one dated 19 May, 1719, from Samson Howe to Benjamin Bixby conveying a parcel of land in consideration of £35. The record is much faded. (*Deeds*, 1: 139.) Two years later, in December, Benjamin Bixby bought other land in Killingly of John Russell, paying therefore £7 (*Ibid.*, 2-54), and of William Moffit, for £5 (*Ibid.*, 2-55.) After this date he appears both as grantee and grantor.

<sup>6</sup> Mr. Davis was brother of Gen. George Davis, first acting governor of Porto Rico after annexation by the United States.

refused to give liquor to a drunken savage, whereupon he shot her in the thigh, wounding her severely. This outrage greatly alarmed the few inhabitants of this remote Border-land, especially as it was a time of much Indian alarm and violence." On the 3 Oct., 1720, in consequence of the assault and damage inflicted, the Governor and council ordered that Benjamin Bushnell deliver to Benjamin Bigsby, what estate he had in his hands belonging to Mrs. Bixby's Indian assailant. Scarcely had she recovered from the wound when she was "visited by the awful providence of Heaven," being struck by lightning, and seriously injured and disabled. Because of these misfortunes, Gov. Gurdon Saltonstall took occasion to express his sympathy with the stricken family, and Benjamin Bixby wrote<sup>1</sup> to the Governor to express "his grateful acknowledgement of his Honor's undeserved kindness," informing him that his wife continued in very difficult circumstances and was unlikely to recover the usual soundness of her limbs under another year, if ever. Material aid was extended to Benjamin Bixby. The Indians seated near New London paid seventeen pounds, doubtless as some atonement for the wounding of Mrs. Bixby by one of their race, who it was known had received shelter at Mohegan, and which had caused restrictions being placed upon the carrying of arms by them.<sup>2</sup> Miss Ellen D. Larned found a reference in the local records showing that Martha Bixby recovered from her injuries, for at a later date she is reported, while on her way to meeting, as seeing a bear.

The isolated position of the Bixbys did not long continue. Settlers were fast coming in all about them. Benjamin Bixby was deputy to the General Assembly from Killingly, May to July, 1728.<sup>3</sup>

The North Parish of Killingly was established in 1728. The first parish meeting was held 25 Nov., 1728, and Benjamin Bixby, one of the five leading men of the district, was elected one of the four townsmen. He was appointed one of the committee to erect

<sup>1</sup> His letter dated 8 May, 1721, is in Connecticut State Papers, Ecclesiastical Series, 1:155. The question of relief was referred to the General Assembly which refused the grant. Bixby refers to the £17 obtained by Deacon Aspinwall from the Indians.

<sup>2</sup> Larned: History of Windham County, 1:178.

<sup>3</sup> In May, 1728, Connecticut granted to Peter Aspinwall, Benjamin Bigsby and the rest of the present proprietors being inhabitants of Killingly, all that land between the old and new boundary line of Massachusetts, north of Killingly, except what had been previously granted. (*Public Records of Connecticut*.) The same year the bounds of the "North Society of Killingly" were fixed; north by Massachusetts, east by Rhode Island, west by Woodstock, south by Killingly and Pomfret. (*Ibid.*)



Jacob Bibxy  
His Book  
God give him  
Grace therein to look  
and read and  
delight  
and with  
his might  
Anno Domini  
1734

a meeting-house and settle a minister.<sup>1</sup> He was one of the twenty-eight signers of the covenant under which a church was formed, and at its organization, 25 March, 1730, was chosen deacon. Thompson was selected as a name for the new district in honor of a non-resident proprietor, Sir Robert Thompson, first president of the English "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts."

It is said that the well-known Bixby apple, which for a century and a half furnished the neighborhood with a very pleasant early and juicy fruit, was introduced by Benjamin Bixby. He was not the only Bixby to appreciate a good apple. In 1793, Jonathan Bixby of Newton paid £6-6 to obtain a clear title to two pearmain apple trees which stood partly on his own and partly on adjoining land.<sup>2</sup> In 1741, upon the death of his brother, Samuel Bixby, of Sutton, Benjamin undertook the settlement of his estate, and was appointed guardian of Samson Bixby.

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III. SAMUEL BIXBY (*Benjamin, Joseph*), born at Topsfield, Mass.; baptized there 2 June, 1689; died probably early in 1741; married 14 May, 1718, at Killingly, Conn., MARTHA UNDERWOOD, born 30 June, 1689, died during the lifetime of her husband,<sup>3</sup> daughter of Thomas and Mary (Palmer) Underwood of Watertown.

*Children, born at Sutton, Mass.:<sup>4</sup>*

- 1 MARTHA, born 24 March, 1719; died prior to 1741, unmarried.
- 2 ELIZABETH, born 30 June, 1720; died prior to 1741, unmarried.
- 3- 3 SAMUEL, born 9 Sept., 1721; married Lydia Bond; (2) Rebecca Bartlett; (3) Huldah (Pratt) Towne.
- 4 JACOB, born 22 Jan., 1723; living in 1738, but deceased prior to 1743. A Bible published by Robert Freebairn, His Majesty's Printer, Edinburgh, 1713, contains on the blank page between the old and new testaments the following writing:  
 "Jacob Bixby/ His Book/ God give him/ grace, therein to look/ To  
 Look and Read and/ take Delight/ and understand with/ all his  
 might/ Anno Domini/ 1738."<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See Connecticut State Papers, Ecclesiastical Series, 3: 242, 245, 246.

<sup>2</sup> Middlesex Deeds, 113: 336.

<sup>3</sup> The Bixby family, in *Converse and Allied Families*, by C. A. Converse, 2: 810, where may be found a pedigree of the Underwood family.

<sup>4</sup> Benedict: History of Sutton, from Sutton Records. Also Probate records of Worcester Co. The only children who participated in division of their father's estate were Samuel, Jonathan, Sampson and Solomon. There were none but minor children living in 1741.

<sup>5</sup> Letter of Mrs. Addie Bixby Weston (13436.K4), Madison, Me. Through the courtesy of Mrs. Weston a facsimile of this page is shown opposite.



On the back of the new testament title page is the following:

"I Jacob Bixby/ was Born/ In Jenewary/ The 0 22 Day/ In the year 1723/ Anno Domony/ 1738."

On the page between the new testament and the metrical psalms is the following:

"Jacob Bixby his/ Book God Give/ him therein Look/ lord hailp me to/ run that blessed /race that heaven/ may be my/ Dwelling place."

5 BENJAMIN, born 17 April, 1726; died prior to 1743.

6- 6 JONATHAN, born 29 Sept., 1728; married Eliza ———; (2) Kezia (Ammidown) Allen.

7- 7 SAMPSON, born 3 March, 1731; married Mary Bullard.

8- 8 SOLOMON, twin with Sampson; married Esther Clark.

SAMUEL BIXBY was one of the early settlers in Sutton. The proprietors of that township, although authorized in 1704 to settle the territory which they had purchased from Wampus, a civilized Indian, were unable to procure settlers for their lands until the close of Queen Anne's War in 1713. In 1714 they granted 4000 acres to the first thirty approved families who should settle in the township and laid out thirty "forty acre lots" for homesteads. In 1717 the required thirty families were in town, among them Samuel Bixby. These thirty proprietors of the 4000 acres divided and disposed of their common rights in the 2800 acres not assigned as homesteads. Samuel Bixby sold his one thirtieth of the settlers' lands, except what had been laid out as forty-acres lots, 20 Feb., 1718-9, to John Stockwell.<sup>1</sup> His homestead was No. 4 of the "eight lots."<sup>2</sup> His brother, Caleb Bixby, seems to have accompanied him to Sutton, and to have remained there some time. The location of Samuel Bixby was in that part of Sutton which is now the town of Millbury. An inventory of his estate, disclosing £635, was presented on the 30 April, 1741, by his brother, Benjamin Bixby, of Killingly, who doubtless was in Sutton to attend his brother's funeral, and who was appointed administrator on the estate 13 May following. He was the same day appointed guardian of the child, Sampson. He gave his son, John, power of attorney to settle with the probate court 7 Jan., 1742-3, at which time Samuel had come of age. John Stockwell was Jonathan's guardian. Samuel, on 11 May, 1743, mortgaged his father's homestead of 40 acres to John Stockwell and Nathaniel Waters, they having become sureties for him in the payment of £19 each to his brothers, Jonathan, Solomon and Sampson. This mortgage was released 29 April, 1745.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Benedict: History of Sutton.

<sup>2</sup> Suffolk Deeds, 34:189.

<sup>3</sup> Worcester Deeds, 17:316.

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III. GEORGE BIXBY (*Benjamin, Joseph*), born 31 Jan., 1692, at Topsfield, Mass.,<sup>1</sup> died there 3 May, 1783; married 6 Aug., 1718, MARY (Baily) PORTER,<sup>2</sup> widow of Joseph Porter of Salem, Mass. She died 8 Feb., 1767. He married, second, 25 May, 1769, SARAH (GOODHUE) CUMMINGS,<sup>3</sup> widow of David Cummings of Topsfield, baptized 15 March, 1713, at Ipswich, Mass., died 30 June, 1776, aged 63 years,<sup>4</sup> daughter of John and Sarah (Sherwin) Goodhue.

*Children, born at Salem Village, now Danvers:*<sup>5</sup>

- 1- 1 DANIEL, born 17 Feb., 1718, baptized 24 May, 1719; married Ruth Gould.
- 2- 2 ELIZABETH, born 16 Aug., 1722, baptized 9 Sept., 1722; married John Perkins.
- 3- 3 BENJAMIN, born 13 Nov., 1724, baptized 11 April, 1725; married Ann Bradstreet.
- 4- 4 SARAH, born 2 Feb., 1726, baptized 19 March, 1726; married 30 Nov., 1749, Daniel Lake.
- 5 ENOS, born 26 March, 1732, baptized 28 May, 1732; died 30 May, 1738.

GEORGE BIXBY lived in that part of Salem now Danvers, from the time of his marriage until about 1731. In June, 1731, he is styled "of Topsfield." He possessed lands in Topsfield and Boxford, and the record of land transactions contain many conveyances to and from him. He was prosperous and respected. After returning to Topsfield he became a member of the church there, having previously been a member of the Salem Village church, and was chosen deacon.

<sup>1</sup> This date does not appear in either the Boxford or Topsfield Vital Records, but was obtained from a family record written about 1860 by Henry M. Bixby (13538.55) at the dictation of Joseph Bixby (13538.4).

<sup>2</sup> Joseph Porter and Mary Baily, both of Salem, were published 19 April, 1709. (*Salem Marriage Intentions*, printed in Salem Press Hist. Geneal. Record.) Joseph Porter died in 1713, leaving minor children by Mary, viz.: Mary, Priscilla, and Joseph. His brothers, Samuel and Nathaniel Porter, were administrators of the estate of their father, who was also named Joseph Porter. In 1719, at the request of Mary, now wife of George Bigsby, upon proof that the interests of her children were not being protected, the Council ordered the former administrators removed and George and Mary Bigsby appointed in their place. (*Council Records*, vol. 7.) See also a law suit between George Bixby and Nathaniel Porter. (*Suffolk files*, 39,449 and 39,459.)

<sup>3</sup> David Cummings and Sarah Goodhue of Ipswich were published 30 Oct., 1741. Cummings died at Topsfield 2 April, 1765. By Sarah, who was his second wife, he had Jonathan born 14 Oct., 1743, of Andover, a soldier in the Revolution; Stephen born 27 Jan., 1744-5, died 27 May, 1765; Elizabeth, died in infancy; Daniel, born 30 Aug., 1749, a soldier in the Revolution, and Archelaus born 1 June, 1752. (*Cummings Genealogy*.) In 1783 Sarah Bixby's heirs by David Cummings were Jonathan and Archelaus. (*Essex Probate*.)

<sup>4</sup> Perley: *Essex Antiquarian*.

<sup>5</sup> The children were all baptized at the Salem Village church, to which George and Mary were admitted 10 May, 1719. (*Church Records*.)

On the 4 May, 1751, he deeded to his son Daniel 37 acres of land and one-half his dwelling house, and other buildings, on the road from the River bridge to Middleton. On the same day he granted to son Benjamin, as his share of his estate, one half of 57 acres, conveyed to him by Jacob Reddington, with the buildings thereon, except the schoolhouse.<sup>1</sup>

In 1738 he was one of the trustees appointed by the town to take title to land deeded to the town by Jacob Reddington for a site for the new schoolhouse.<sup>2</sup>

He made his will 8 May, 1780, at which time his wife was deceased. He names her heirs, also his own children, Elizabeth, Benjamin, Sarah, his grandchildren, Daniel, George and Mary Bixby, George Lake, and Ruth Towne. Grandson Daniel Bixby was named as executor. This will was allowed 3 June, 1783. The estate was appraised at £588-19-00.<sup>3</sup>

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III. NATHAN BIXBY (*Benjamin, Joseph*), born 16 Nov., 1694, at Topsfield, Mass.; died probably in the early spring of 1776;<sup>4</sup> married 25 Nov., 1718, ABIGAIL ROGERS of Salem, Mass.<sup>5</sup>

*Children, born at Topsfield:*<sup>6</sup>

- 1 NATHAN, born 23 Oct., 1719; died in infancy.
- 2- 2 AMOS, born 13 Nov., 1722; baptized at Topsfield, Nov., 1722; married Elizabeth Sabin.
- 3- 3 ABIJAH, born 8 Sept., 1725; married Anna Corbin.
- 4 ABIGAIL, born 19 March, 1727-8; baptized 24 March, 1727-8, at Boxford, Mass.; married 22 Oct., 1751, at Thompson, Joseph Newell of Lebanon, Conn.<sup>7</sup>
- 5- 5 NATHAN, born 18 Aug., 1730; married Mary Burrell.
- 6- 6 SOLOMON, born 26 Oct., 1732; married Abigail Newell.
- 7 JOSHUA, baptized 15 June, 1735;<sup>7</sup> not living in March, 1758.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Essex deeds, 95: 263. The original deed to Benjamin is now in possession of Henry M. Bixby (13538.55).

<sup>2</sup> Essex Deeds, 79: 87.

<sup>3</sup> Essex Probate.

<sup>4</sup> Pomfret Probate, 3: 484.

<sup>5</sup> Abigail Rogers may have been a daughter of Jeremiah and Abigail Rogers of Salem, and therefore a sister of Rev. John Rogers of Boxford. Jeremiah Rogers was a wheelwright. In New Eng. Hist. Gen. Reg. 5: 316, suggestion is made that Abigail Rogers, born 5 July, 1681, daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Wade) Rogers, married 25 Nov., 1718, "James Bixby of Lynn." James is doubtless an error for Nathan, and there appears no reason for supposing that Nathan Bixby married a daughter of Samuel Rogers.

<sup>6</sup> The births of the children, except Abigail and Joshua, are on Topsfield records. The baptisms are obtained from the respective church records.

<sup>7</sup> Thompson, Conn., church records.

NATHAN BIXBY removed to what is now Thompson, Conn., in 1733. On the 17 Jan., 1732-3, he sold to Rev. John Emerson, Pastor of the Church at Topsfield, several parcels of land, and in the deed his wife, Abigail, and mother, Mary, released their dower rights.<sup>1</sup> The deed was acknowledged in April. On the 3 June, he obtained letters of dismission from the Topsfield church, to which he had been admitted in 1729, to the Second church in Killingly, Conn. It is said that he was so noted for his piety that he was styled "Saint Nathan." In deeds he is styled yeoman. He purchased land in Thompson Parish, Conn., in 1737.<sup>2</sup> The will of Nathan Bixby was dated 30 March, 1758, and proved 6 May, 1776. The inventory of his estate, dated 17 April, 1776, disclosed £196-6-6. Nathan (1365) inherited his father's farm of 30 acres, the other sons having had their portions by deed during their father's lifetime. Amos, Abijah, and Solomon in 1777 receipted to Nathan for their shares of their father's library and wearing apparel. Abigail had had her portion at the time of her marriage.<sup>3</sup>

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III. ELIZABETH BIXBY (*Benjamin, Joseph*), born 10 Nov., 1697, at Topsfield, Mass.; died probably in 1735; married 5 Dec., 1722, RICHARD TOWNE of Topsfield, born 16 July, 1700, died 21 Feb., 1765, having been town clerk since 1749, son of Thomas and Sarah (French) Towne. He married (2) Hannah Bixby (118).

*Children, born at Topsfield:*

1 THOMAS TOWNE, born 28 Dec., 1727; died 18 Jan., 1731.

2 MARY TOWNE, born 21 Feb., 1729; died 21 May, 1816; married, 1748, Samuel Towne, born 8 Aug., 1727,<sup>4</sup> died 29 April, 1790, son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Allen) Towne.<sup>5</sup>

Children:

1. Elizabeth Towne, born 21 Oct., 1749; died 22 May, 1753.

2. Thomas Towne, born 14 Nov., 1752; died 14 April, 1832, at Lyndeboro, N. H.; married Sarah Cole.

3. Richard Towne, born 8 March, 1755; died 10 May, 1837; married Jane Corey.

4. Enos Towne, born 4 Aug., 1759; died 16 June, 1813, at Barre, Vt.; married Elizabeth Moore.

5. Mary Towne, born 1 June, 1763; died 1 April, 1832.

6. Elizabeth Towne, born 12 May, 1766; died 29 June, 1818.

7. Allen Towne, born 26 April, 1769; died 1 March, 1783.

<sup>1</sup> Essex Deeds, 63:25.

Killingly Deeds, 4:103.

<sup>3</sup> Pomfret Probate, 3:484.

<sup>4</sup> Topsfield Vital Records.

<sup>5</sup> Towne: Descendants of William Towne, 1901.



- 3 ELIZABETH TOWNE, born 30 Jan., 1732; died 20 Feb., 1825;<sup>1</sup> married 27 (or 9th as in Gould Genealogy) Oct., 1751, Jacob Gould, born 6 Feb., 1728-9, died 2 Sept., 1799, son of John and Phebe (Towne) Gould. He commanded a company in the regiment of Col. Samuel Johnson, which marched from Boxford, Mass., to Lexington, Mass., 19 April, 1775.  
Children:<sup>2</sup>
1. Jacob Gould, born 28 April, 1752; died 25 July, 1753.
  2. Richard Gould, born 1753; died 1754.
  3. Ruth Gould, born 22 Jan., 1755; died 1822; married 1787, Nathan Perley.
  4. Elizabeth Gould, born 12 Dec., 1756; died 1814; married 1787, Nathaniel Herrick.
  5. Edna Gould, born 17 March, 1759; died 1818; married 1781, Samuel Stiles; (2) Jacob Flynn.
  6. Susanna Gould, born 13 Feb., 1761; died 24 Jan., 1825; married 13 March, 1783, Jacob Gould.
  7. Jacob Gould, born 9 Sept., 1764; died 1849; married 1790, Ruth Peabody.
  8. Lois Gould, born 1 Nov., 1766; died 1824; married, 1791, Benjamin Perley.
  9. Sarah Gould, baptized 18 Dec., 1768; died young.
  10. Kezra Gould, born 24 Oct., 1770; died 1842; married 1805, Joseph Smith of Boxford.
  11. Huldah Gould, born 21 Dec., 1774; died 1846; married 1801, Moses Dor-  
man.
  12. John Gould, born 11 July, 1778; died 1864; married 1799, Polly Prince.
- 4 SARAH TOWNE, born 1 Dec., 1734; died 1735.

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III. JACOB BIXBY (*Benjamin, Joseph*), born 29 April, 1700, at Topsfield, Mass.; died 26 March, 1776; married 4 Feb., 1731, at Thompson, Conn., ELIZABETH JEWETT,<sup>2</sup> born 1709, died 6 Aug., 1746, aged 37 years, daughter of Isaac and Dorcas (Hovey) Jewett<sup>3</sup> of Killingly, Conn. He married, second, 2 Jan., 1758, at Thompson, SARAH YOUNGLOVE,<sup>2</sup> born 25 Dec., 1732, died 29 Sept., 1823, daughter of John and Jemima Younglove of Killingly.

*Children, born at Thompson:*<sup>4</sup>

- 1 AARON, baptized 25 Feb., 1732; died Dec., 1740.
- 2 Child, died in infancy.
- 3 Child, died in infancy.
- 4 MIRIAM, born 1738; baptized 18 Feb., 1739; died 20 Oct., 1741.
- 5 JACOB, born 11 April, baptized 18 April, 1742; died 8 Aug., 1745.
- 6 Child, died in 1743.

<sup>1</sup> Gould: Gould Genealogy.

<sup>2</sup> Thompson, Conn., church records.

<sup>3</sup> Isaac Jewett of Killingly conveys to his well beloved son-in-law, Jacob Bixby, of Killingly, two acres on east side of the Killingly river, 20 Sept., 1735. (*Deeds*, 4: 44.)

<sup>4</sup> This list of children follows the Bixby Ms. The baptisms are found on Thompson church record, which is also said to contain this comment, "Epidemics were very frequent and malignant, a remarkable case being that of Jacob Bixby, who lost his wife and children at one fell swoop, eight children." It is remarkable that the record of deaths above given do not substantiate this state-



- 7 ELIZABETH, born 16 May, baptized 20 May, 1744; died 23 Aug., 1745.
- 8 Child, born 1744; died in infancy.
- 9 ICHABOD, baptized 17 Aug., 1746; died 1768<sup>1</sup> (Qy. 1758).

*By second marriage:*

- J-10 JACOB, born 29 Nov., 1758; baptized 13 Jan., 1759; married Eunice Leavens.
- I1 PHEBE, born 10 Aug., baptized, 17 Aug., 1760; died 2 Dec., 1761.
- L-12 DANIEL, born 25 Sept., baptized 28 Dec., 1762; married Sarah Towne.
- M-13 MOSES, born 18 April, baptized 21 April, 1765; married Mary Greene.
- N-14 SAMUEL, born 5 May, baptized 19 July, 1767; married Esther Elithorpe.
- O-15 YOUNGLOVE, born 5 Sept., baptized 2 Oct., 1768; married Rebecca Boyden.
- P-16 JEMIMA, born 30 April, 1772; baptized 9 June, 1771 (so in copy); died 12 Jan., 1813; married Jasper Partridge.
- Q-17 HANNAH, born 26 May, baptized 29 May, 1774; died 13 Jan., 1822; married William Barber.

JACOB BIXBY of Salem, Mass., purchased land in Killingly 26 Dec., 1721, and is said to have gone that year to Killingly. However, as in a deed of 1 Feb., 1728, conveying a more extensive purchase, he is again described as of Salem, it is probable that he did not remove until 1729.<sup>2</sup> He lived, and all his children were born, one mile east of Brandy Hill, in Thompson Parish. He united with the church there in 1732. He was appointed tything-man in 1760.

He fell from a load of rye in Aug., 1775, receiving spinal injuries from which he failed to recover. His will, dated 14 Nov., 1775, was proved 25 April, 1776.<sup>3</sup> To his wife, Elizabeth, as long as she remained a widow, he gave one third of his estate, and the household goods she brought him on her marriage. All the rest of his estate he gave to his five sons: Jacob, Daniel, Moses, Samuel, and Younglove, who were to pay to their sisters, Jemima and Hannah Bixby, £6-8-0 each. The court 6 July, 1779, allowed the widow 3 s. 6 d. per week for 52 weeks for bringing up the youngest child until it was four years old. The estate was valued at £473-7-2, including the home farm of 80 acres, valued at £300.

ment. Also it is to be noted that there is no record of baptism of the unnamed children, which, considering the promptness with which parents in those days procured baptism for their children, indicates that if there were such births, the children were either stillborn or very weak at birth and soon died, which would contradict the quoted statement. Mrs. E. E. Bates of Webster is responsible for the statement that Jacob Bixby "buried his wife and seven children with putrid sore throat. He chiselled out the markers from ordinary wall stone." It was a common custom in those days, because of the difficulty of procuring suitable gravestones, duly inscribed, to use field stone for markers to the graves. In 1876 the grandchildren of Jacob Bixby erected a monument to his memory.

<sup>1</sup> Miss Ellen D. Larned of Thompson, Conn., states that Ichabod died at the age of ten years.

<sup>2</sup> Killingly Deeds, 2: 55; 3: 35. He is styled of Killingly in Jan., 1733. (*Ibid.*, 4: 12.)

<sup>3</sup> Pomfret Probate, 4: 501; 3: 491.

III. JEMIMA BIXBY (*Benjamin, Joseph*), born 26 Jan., 1702-3, at Boxford, Mass.; died 1790; married 19 June, 1727, at Salem, Mass., JOSEPH TOWNE, born 26 Dec., 1701, at Topsfield, Mass., died March, 1786, son of Joseph and Margaret (Case) Towne, and a descendant of William Towne of Salem.<sup>1</sup> She was dismissed from Topsfield to Killingly church 22 Oct., 1738.

Joseph Towne removed to Thompson parish, Killingly, Conn., in 1732, and there purchased, 6 April, 1733, 230 acres land from John Hallowell, for which he paid £400. He added to his holdings in 1743.<sup>2</sup>

*Children:*<sup>1</sup>

- 1 JEMIMA TOWNE, born and died in 1729, at Topsfield.
- 2 ARCHELAUS TOWNE, born 26 Feb., 1730, at Topsfield; died 1783, at Thompson, Conn.; married 26 Feb., 1753, Sarah Brown.  
 Children:
  1. Archelaus Towne, born 8 Oct., 1755; died 18 Aug., 1792; married 25 Dec., 1778, Martha Johnson, daughter of Diah and Susanna (Converse) Johnson; she married (2) Israel Tourtelotte.<sup>3</sup> Archelaus Towne, Jr., had five children, of whom Ithiel, born 3 Oct., 1784, was the first of the family to achieve public recognition for other than military service. He began as a house carpenter, and soon manifested great ability in designing buildings. He became the architect of many public buildings both in Connecticut and elsewhere, and was the first to plan a satisfactory manner of bettering the State House at Boston.<sup>4</sup> He died 1844 unmarried.<sup>5</sup>
  2. Abitel Towne.
  3. William Towne, born 3 Sept., 1758; married Lucy Prince; served in the Revolution.
  4. Isaac Towne, born 9 Dec., 1759; served in the militia at Saratoga.
  5. Sarah Towne, born 11 Feb., 1762; baptized 1761;<sup>4</sup> married Daniel Bixby (138L).
  6. Margaret Towne, born 1763.
- 3 JEMIMA TOWNE, born 6 Feb., 1732, at Topsfield; married 18 May, 1757, James White of Pomfret, Conn.<sup>4</sup>  
 Child:
  1. Abigail White, married Smith Barrett.<sup>5</sup>
- 4 EUNICE TOWNE.
- 5 JOSEPH TOWNE, born 8 Oct., 1735, at Killingly; died there 28 Dec., 1809; married Abigail Thompson, born 27 May, 1741, daughter of Ichabod and Rachel Thompson. The five sons of Joseph Towne owned adjoining farms in Thompson and held a remarkable record of health and longevity. The first death in the group was that of the eldest son at eighty-one years of age.

<sup>1</sup> Descendants of William Towne, p. 50.

<sup>2</sup> Converse and Allied Families, p. 227.

<sup>3</sup> Miss Ellen D. Larned, Thompson, Conn. The Towne Genealogy gives only the birth and death of Ithiel.

<sup>4</sup> Church records.

<sup>5</sup> Information of Harold L. Barrett, Jamaica Plain, Mass., a great grandson of Smith Barrett.

## Children:

1. Joseph Towne, born 30 Oct., 1763.
  2. David Towne, born 29 March, 1765.
  3. Benjamin Towne, born 12 Feb., 1767.
  4. Mary Towne, born 28 June, 1769; died 2 Feb., 1826; married Luke Upham.
  5. Archelaus Towne, born 28 June, 1771; married Susanna Foster.
  6. Betsy Towne, born 19 Aug., 1773; married Joseph Elliot.
  7. Ichabod Towne, born 26 Oct., 1775.
  8. Rachel Towne, born 10 Jan., 1779.
  9. Abigail Towne, born 22 April, 1782; died 6 March, 1864; married 27 Feb., 1805, Hezekiah Converse, born 9 Sept., 1784, died 30 Sept., 1830, at Thompson, son of Chester and Esther (Green) Converse.<sup>1</sup>
- 6 ELIZABETH TOWNE, born 27 March, 1738, at Killingly; married Thomas Towne.
- 7 MARGARET TOWNE, born 17 May, 1739, at Killingly; married Aaron Foster.
- 8 SARAH TOWNE.
- 9 MARY TOWNE.

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III. GIDEON BIXBY (*George, Joseph*), born 1 Sept., 1699, at Boxford, Mass.; died probably in Jan., 1755;<sup>2</sup> married 20 June, 1751, REBECCA FOSTER,<sup>3</sup> born 21 June, 1720; died 19 Jan., 1795, daughter of Timothy and Ruth (Andrews) Foster of Boxford.<sup>4</sup> She married, second, 12 May, 1756, Solomon Gould, son of John Gould. After her second husband's death, Mrs. Rebecca (Foster-Bixby) Gould resided with her son, Gideon. She had a life interest in the homestead, which she assigned to John Herrick upon his purchase from Gideon Bixby, and took a similar right in the former Herrick place.

*Child, born at Boxford:*

I- 1 GIDEON, born 15 June, 1752; baptized 16 Feb., 1755; married Sally Wood.

GIDEON BIXBY has been supposed to have dwelt on the original Sergeant Bixby place, but from the wording of the deed from George Bixby, Richard Kimball and Jonathan Bixby to Joseph Bixby, recorded with Essex Deeds 50:202, in which the "lot whereon old Sergeant Byxby lived" was conveyed to Joseph in 1728, this

<sup>1</sup> Converse and Allied Families, p. 227.

<sup>2</sup> Rebecca Bixby had administration on her husband's estate 3 March, 1755. (*Essex Probate*.) Church records show that when her son was baptized she was called "widow." Perley finds that Gideon was alive 15 Dec., 1754.

<sup>3</sup> Variouslly called Rebecca Foster and Rebecca Wood; the marriage record is Foster. In the Gould Genealogy in Essex Institute Hist. Col. XI, she is said to have been the daughter of Nathan Wood. By Solomon Gould, who was son of John and Phebe (French) Gould, and who died 15 Dec., 1762, she had Dav'd, Ruth and Amos. Solomon Gould was born 19 March, 1704.

<sup>4</sup> Gould: Gould Genealogy; confirmed by Boxford record. Pierce, in Foster Genealogy, is in error.

would appear to be a mistake. Gideon inherited his father's homestead. In 1725 he bought land near his father's house, and in 1743 bought 30 acres adjoining his own land.<sup>1</sup> His estate at his death amounted to £333.

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III. LYDIA BIXBY (*Jonathan, Joseph*), born 3 Feb., 1694, at Boxford, Mass.; died 1781 at Haverhill, Mass.;<sup>2</sup> married 2 Nov., 1715, at Boxford, THOMAS PAGE of Haverhill,<sup>2</sup> born 24 March, 1693-4, died 4 Oct., 1771, at Haverhill,<sup>2</sup> son of Cornelius and Mary (Marsh) Page.<sup>3</sup>

*Children, born at Haverhill:*<sup>2</sup>

- 1 RUTH PAGE, born 21 March, 1717-8. A Ruth Page married April, 1743, at Haverhill, Jonathan Haynes.<sup>2</sup>
- 2 THOMAS PAGE, born 1 July 1720.<sup>2</sup>
- 3 JONATHAN PAGE, born 5 Feb., 1722-3.
- 4 ABIGAIL PAGE, born 6 Nov., 1724; died 20 Nov., 1748.
- 5 AMOS PAGE, born 24 Feb., 1726-7. Probably the Amos Page who married Abiah Flanders of Salisbury, Mass.,<sup>4</sup> and had  
Children:
  1. Richard Page, born 25 Sept., 1750; died 13 July, 1780.
  2. Amos Page, born 12 Nov., 1752.
  3. Abigail Page, born 6 June, 1755.
  4. Abiah Page, born 14 Dec., 1757; married 6 May, 1779, at Haverhill, John Emery, born 28 June, 1753, died 28 Jan., 1823, son of John and Abigail (Webster) Emery.<sup>5</sup>
  5. Parker Page, born 14 Aug., 1760.
  6. Sarah Page, baptized 24 Oct., 1763.<sup>6</sup>
  7. Thomas Page, born 30 May, 1766.
  8. David Page, born 1 May, 1770.
  9. John Page, born 10 Aug., 1772.
- 6 LYDIA PAGE, born 1 March, 1728-9; died 16 Nov., 1774, unmarried.
- 7 ABEL PAGE, born 8 June, 1731. Probably the Abel Page who died 1 Jan., 1797, having married 16 Oct., 1759, Dorcas Fillmore of Norwich, and had  
Children:
  1. Daniel Page, born 21 Jan., 1761.
  2. Vashti Page, born 27 Feb., 1762.
  3. Sophia Page, born 22 March, 1769.
  4. Justus Page, born 10 June, 1770; probably, as of "Timneth, Vt.", married 25 Jan., 1798, at Methuen, Eunice Cross, formerly of Methuen.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Essex Deeds, 84: 242; 85: 221.

<sup>2</sup> Haverhill Vital Records, where the age of Thomas Page at death is given as 77 years. A Thomas Page, Jr., probably 181-2, married 14 March, 1744-5, Mary Cortes and had a daughter, Sarah, born 14 March, 1745-6.

<sup>3</sup> Chase: History of Haverhill.

<sup>4</sup> Salisbury, Mass., Second Church records note the baptism of Abiah Flanders 25 Feb., 1728.

<sup>5</sup> For their descendants, see Emery Genealogy.

<sup>6</sup> Haverhill Vital Records, which also gives Susanna, daughter of Amos Page, born 20 Oct., 1763.

<sup>7</sup> Methuen Vital Records.



5. Zadock Page, born 9 May, 1772; died 20 Sept., 1778; married 31 Aug., 1797, Susanna Webster. Child: *Abel Page*, born 25 May, 1798.
6. Lucinda Page, born 16 Oct., 1775.
- 8 GIDEON PAGE, born 12 Sept., 1733; died 26 Nov., 1736.
- 9 WILLIAM PAGE, born 17 Nov., 1738; married Martha Parker.  
Children:
  1. Unity Page, born 11 May, 1765.
  2. Joseph Parker Page, born 1 May, 1767.
  3. Jonathan Bixby Page, born 19 Nov., 1769.  
Perhaps others.

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III. JONATHAN BIXBY (*Jonathan, Joseph*), born 5 March, 1695-6, at Boxford, Mass.; died during the winter of 1780-1, at Middleton, Mass.; married 4 Nov., 1735, RUTH FULLER,<sup>1</sup> born 10 Oct., 1718, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Goodell) Fuller of Middleton. She married, second, 28 Feb., 1792, at Pepperrell, Mass., Capt. Jeremiah Shattuck, aged 90 years.<sup>2</sup> The *Massachusetts Centinel* of 10 March, 1792, printed the following notice: "At Pepperel, Capt. Jeremiah Shattuck aged 90 to Mrs. Ruth Bixby aged 75. His descendants are ten children, sixty grandchildren, about 70 great grandchildren, and one of the fifth generation. Her descendants are thirteen children, thirty-nine grandchildren."

*Children, born at Boxford:*<sup>3</sup>

- 1- 1 NATHANIEL, baptized Oct., 1736; married Mary Stowers.
- 2- 2 ELIZABETH, baptized April, 1738, married Elias Johnson.
- 3 SARAH, baptized 1 April, 1739; living in 1780. Possibly she was that Sarah Bixby, an unmarried woman, who died at Boxford, 25 May, 1800, "aged 65." The entry is not in Boxford records, but appears in the printed "Vital Record" as obtained from a "private record."
- 4- 4 HULDAH, baptized Oct., 1740; married Asa Stiles.
- 5 EUNICE, baptized Oct., 1742; died 3 Jan., 1759.
- 6 LUCY, baptized 29 July, 1744; died Dec., 1746.
- 7 NANCY (Annah), born 24 Sept., 1746; living in 1780.<sup>4</sup>
- 8 LUCY, born 25 June, 1748; living in 1780.
- 9- 9 APHIA (Affee),<sup>5</sup> born 16 March, 1750-1; married John Powers.

<sup>1</sup> This marriage is found on both Middleton and Boxford records.

<sup>2</sup> Pepperrell records. Ruth's son, David, was then living in Pepperrell, whence he removed, 1794, to Piermont.

<sup>3</sup> Births and baptisms from Boxford Vital Records.

<sup>4</sup> Anna Bixby and Isaac Berry of Middleton were married 26 Nov., 1766, at Boxford. She had the prefix of respect, "Mrs.," whether a widow or not is not known. This title was generally given to respectable unmarried females at that period. Anna Bixby was cautioned against by Middleton, July, 1765. (*Sessions records.*)

<sup>5</sup> The name is recorded as Apphia in July, 1770. (*Sessions record.*)



- 10 MARY, born 30 July, 1753; probably married 16 Jan., 1786, Aaron Smith,<sup>1</sup> as his second wife.
- K-11 RUTH, born 15 Aug., 1754; married 15 March, 1780, Nehemiah Fuller.
- L-12 DAVID, born 6 Sept., 1757, baptized 17 May, 1758, at Topsfield, Mass.; married Nancy Pecker.
- 13 JONATHAN, born 23 April, 1760; of Middleton in 1784, removed two years later to Haverhill, Mass.
- 14 ASSA, born 16 March, 1761. This child is called "daughter" in the record.

JONATHAN BIXBY and wife, Ruth, 1 June, 1747, sold to William Fuller for £360 all their right and title to lands and buildings in Middleton, which had formerly belonged to their father, William Fuller.<sup>2</sup> Jonathan was a well-to-do farmer, and in 1735 was one of the few Essex County subscribers to Rev. Thomas Prince's Chronological History of New England, published that year, and of which he took two copies. He lived in Boxford until 1771, when he sold his homestead of 69 acres to Asa Peabody<sup>3</sup> and removed to Middleton. His name occurs frequently in the record of land transactions at Salem. In Suffolk Court files is a deposition made by him that in June, 1723, he had occasion several times to go to Bradford with a team, and the way was so bad he was forced to go round by the house of Stephen Peabody. At the mill pond of said Peabody's house, there was a bridge, but it was usually flowed with water, and he could not pass over it half the time. He had often to go through the mill pond, and up a steep hill, and to borrow more oxen.<sup>4</sup> He made his will 16 Oct., 1780, which was proved 3 April following. He names wife, Ruth, sons, David, Jonathan, and Nathaniel, daughters, Elizabeth, Huldah, Annah, Lucy, Affee, Mary, Sarah, and Ruth, "wife of Nehemiah Fuller."<sup>5</sup> The inventory of his estate disclosed £243-9-6.

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III. RUTH BIXBY (*Jonathan, Joseph*), born 10 April, 1699, at Boxford, Mass.; married 1 March, 1721-2, THOMAS ANDREWS of Boxford,<sup>6</sup> who was born there 18 Dec., 1694, son of Thomas and Rebecca Andrews. From Perley's History of Boxford we learn

<sup>1</sup> Middleton Vital Records. Perley, in *Dwellings of Boxford*, states she married Daniel Perkins, confounding her with Mary Ann Bixby (13513). A Mary Bixby of Topsfield gave birth 13 April, 1777, to a male child. (*Sessions record*.) Aaron Smith died 29 Jan., 1827, aged 92 years. He married first, 7 Nov., 1765, Mary Thomas, and had eight children. There is no record of death of either wife.

<sup>2</sup> Essex Deeds, 91: 63.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 129: 65.

<sup>4</sup> Files, 16945.

<sup>5</sup> Ruth is the only one of the daughters whose married name appears in the will.

<sup>6</sup> Boxford Vital Records.

that Thomas Andrews was a farmer, was living in Dec., 1746, that administration was granted on his estate 1 June, 1747, and that his widow died between 1769 and 1789.<sup>1</sup>

In 1725 Thomas Andrews was appointed guardian of Elias Bixby, brother to his wife.

*Children, born at Boxford:*<sup>2</sup>

- 1 NATHANIEL ANDREWS, born 3 Nov., 1723; married 9 Dec., 1753, Sarah Lindel, by whom he had seven children.
- 2 REBECCA ANDREWS, born 28 Sept.,<sup>3</sup> 1725.
- 3 LEVI ANDREWS, born 27 Aug., 1727;<sup>4</sup> married 5 Nov., 1749, at Topsfield, Mass., Sarah Towne of Topsfield; (2) 10 Nov., 1757, Bridget Holt. Children,<sup>5</sup> born at Boxford:
  1. Lydia Andrews, born 14 Jan., 1758; baptized 15 Nov., 1761.
  2. Mary Andrews, baptized 15 Nov., 1761.
- 4 SARAH ANDREWS, born 8 Oct., 1729; living in Boxford, unmarried, in 1786.
- 5 SELBORN ANDREWS, born 25 Oct., 1730; baptized 10 Oct., 1736. He died unmarried, it is thought, in one of the military expeditions of the old French War. He was living 26 March, 1750, when he was described as a minor. He is described as deceased on 14 March, 1757.
- 6 LYDIA ANDREWS, born 22 July, 1732; probably the Lydia published 24 Dec., 175-, to Samuel Flint of Middleton, Mass.
- 7 JERUSHA ANDREWS, born Sept., —, baptized 15 Sept., 1734. Jonathan Bixby was appointed her guardian in 1750. She married prior to 1769 Joseph Simmons of Boxford, cordwainer, but had probably been published 2 Feb., 1755, to Joseph Fisk.
- 8 SUSANNA ANDREWS, born 30 Oct., 173-; baptized 1738.
- 9 ABIGAIL ANDREWS, born 9 April, 174-; baptized 18 April, 1742; married 22 Feb., 1770, Nathaniel Tyler, Jr., of Methuen. She and her husband were living in 1782.

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III. MARY BIXBY (*Jonathan, Joseph*), born 7 Feb., 1701-2, at Boxford, Mass.; died 24 April, 1747, at Haverhill,<sup>6</sup> Mass.; married 18 Dec., 1723,<sup>6</sup> at Haverhill, NATHANIEL SANDERS of Haverhill, born 27 Dec., 1700,<sup>6</sup> died 26 Oct., 1754, aged 54,<sup>7</sup> son of James and Hannah (Tewkesbury) Sanders.<sup>8</sup> Nathaniel Sanders had the title of lieutenant. He married, second, Anne Kelly, by whom he had Anne, born 2 March, 1759.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Perley History of Boxford. See also Essex Antiquarian, 3: 116.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* The marriages of the children are also from History of Boxford. The children are all mentioned in the settlement of their father's estate.

<sup>3</sup> Boxford Vital Records has this date, the Bixby Ms. 23 Sept.

<sup>4</sup> "Baptized 14 Aug., 1747."

<sup>5</sup> Boxford Vital Records.

<sup>6</sup> Haverhill Vital Records.

<sup>7</sup> Inscription on gravestone. The death record of Mary (Bixby) Sanders is also from her gravestone, where her age at death is given as 46 years.

<sup>8</sup> Chase: History of Haverhill.

*Children, born at Haverhill:*<sup>1</sup>

- 1 JUDITH SANDERS, born 1 July, 1726; probably married 1 Sept., 1748, at Haverhill, Joseph Clark of Methuen.
- 2 MARY SANDERS, born 3 July, 1728.
- 3 PHEBE SANDERS, born 9 Oct., 1730; probably married 23 Feb., 1758, Simeon Dow of Amesbury.
- 4 NATHANIEL SANDERS, born 9 April, 1733.
- 5 AVERY SANDERS, born 17 Dec., 1735.
- 6 HANNAH SANDERS, born 4 Nov., 1738.

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III. ELIAS BIXBY (*Jonathan, Joseph*), born 23 Nov., 1706, at Boxford, Mass.; died probably in 1793, at Great Barrington, Mass.; married probably in 1729, at Fairfield, Conn., ELINOR ANDREWS, born 9 Oct., 1711, died probably in 1753 or 1754,<sup>2</sup> daughter of John and Elinor (Burr) Andrews. "Eleanor daughter of John Andrews" was baptized 14 Nov., 1711, at Fairfield. John Andrews was born in Fairfield in 1697, son of John and grandson of Francis Andrews, who was one of the original proprietors of Hartford and an early resident of Fairfield. Eleanor Burr was daughter of Daniel Burr.

Elias Bixby and Eleanor his wife of Fairfield, in consideration of £100, granted to "our brother John Andrews of Fairfield" all right in the estate of "our father John Andris late of Fairfield," 26 April, 1734.

Elias Bixby married, second, in 1786, probably at Great Barrington, MARGARET (HALL) PRINDLE, who survived him.

*Children:*<sup>3</sup>

- 1- 1 JONATHAN, born about 1730; married Martha Hull.
- 2- 2 DANIEL, born 1732; married, probably, Deziar Herrick.
- 3- 3 MOLLY, born probably about 1734; married Thomas Roorback.

<sup>1</sup> Haverhill Vital Records.

<sup>2</sup> Under Connecticut practice it is not necessary for the wife to join with her husband, or release dower rights, in sale of land purchased by him. Eleanor appears with Elias in several transactions, the last being that of 21 Oct., 1751. On 27 Aug., 1751, Elias and Eleanor join in selling land lately distributed to the heirs of John Andrews; and 21 Oct., 1751, they join with John and Daniel Andrews in conveying land. (*Fairfield Land Records*, 7: 75; 5: 290, 386; 11: 30, 144.) She does not appear in the sale of the homestead in 1754, nor does her name again appear in any record.

<sup>3</sup> There is no record in which appear the names of the children of Elias Bixby. Family tradition, confirmed through correspondence with representatives of Jonathan, Ebenezer, David, and Elias, Jr., together with the baptismal records at Green's Farms church, and the association of various members of the family, provide sufficient assurance as to the parentage of all the children given. The probable date of Jonathan's birth is found by assuming he was at least twenty one years of age at his marriage in 1752, and that his mother was not less than seventeen years of age when married. He was undoubtedly the eldest child. Daniel's age in 1760, when he enlisted in the Provincial

- 4(?) SARAH. The will of Thomas Fairchild of Redding, Conn., proved between 1741 and 1748 was witnessed by Sarah Bixby. No other mention of her has been found. While we have no direct evidence to show that she was a child of Elias, there seems no other explanation.
- 5(?) MARTHA, married George Hull<sup>1</sup> of Greenfield Hill, Fairfield and Redding, Conn., baptized 24 Sept. 1727, son of George and Martha (Gregory) Hull. Child; Martha Bixby Hull.
- 6- 6 ELINOR, born probably about 1740; married Seth Meeker.<sup>2</sup>
- 7 ABIGAIL, baptized 11 April, 1742, at Green's Farms.<sup>3</sup>
- 8- 8 EBENEZER, born 1744; married Mary Morehouse.
- 9- 9 DAVID, baptized 18 May, 1746, at Green's Farms;<sup>3</sup> married Mary M. Mil-  
lard.
- J- 10 ELIAS, baptized 27 March, 1748, at Redding, Conn.;<sup>2</sup> married Grace Sterling.
- K- 11 MEHITABLE, probably born about 1750; married Nathan Coley.<sup>4</sup>

ELIAS BIXBY at the death of his father was placed, in 1725, under the guardianship of his brother-in-law, Thomas Andrews, of Box-

army, shows him to have been born in 1732. Molly and Elinor were undoubtedly older than the children whose baptisms are of record, and the dates of their birth are surmised from their marriage dates. It is thought all of the children prior to 1748 were baptized at Green's Farms church, but the baptismal records between 1723 and 1742 are missing. Ebenezer's birth is calculated from his age at death, and also from his enlistment record.

There are two traditions which at the present time it is not possible to explain satisfactorily or to reconcile with what seems most probable: (1) The husband of Deziar Herrick (1862) is said to have been Elias Bixby, a sea captain, who was lost at sea. Daniel Bixby, who is put down as her husband, was a tailor, and served in the militia. The probable date of death of each seems to be the same. Daniel is mentioned as serving in the militia in 1760, and is not heard of after. Deziar Herrick, said to have been the wife of Elias, the sea captain, married Nathan Carey as early as 1762. It does not seem probable that Elias (186) would have named his son, born in 1748, Elias, if he already had a son Elias living. The husband of Deziar Herrick evidently was living in 1758, and one of her children was born in 1757. There is no question but that the Elias mentioned in the Redding church records of 1748 was No. 186 for we have evidence of his selling land in Redding Parish in 1748 and 1750. (2) William C. Bixby (18616.434) said, 27 July, 1909, that his descent was as follows: William C., Jonathan, Aaron, Nathaniel, Elias, and that his grandfather, Aaron Bixby (18616.4), and John M. Bixby (186J1.2), were cousins. He believed then that their fathers were half-brothers. The belief expressed in the last clause is evidently contrary to fact, for John Bixby, father of John M., was the son of Elias (186J), who married Grace Sterling, 28 April, 1771, at Wilton, Conn. She survived him. Elias, the grandfather of John M., and Nathaniel, father of Aaron, may have been half-brothers. This would show that Elias had married again, after the death of his wife, Elinor, in 1754 or thereabouts, and had a son, Nathaniel. This supposititious second wife must have died before 1786, when he evidently married Margaret Prindle. We have no other suggestion of his having had wives other than Elinor Andrews and Margaret Prindle. His daughters Elinor and Mehitable were living in Redding in 1770, and were married there when their father was living in Massachusetts. His son Elias resided at Redding at that time, and in 1775 he enlisted from there into the Continental Army.

<sup>1</sup>Weygant: Descendants of George Hull, pp. 32, 34. He may have been a brother of Martha (Hull) Bixby (1861).

<sup>2</sup>Redding church records. These records also contain the following: "Abigail Biggsby died 16 Dec., 1760, aged." Whether this can apply to Abigail (1867), or to some older person is not clear, as the age may have been intended to be filled in later when more exact information could be had.

<sup>3</sup>Green's Farms Church records.

<sup>4</sup>The record of the marriage of Mehitable to Nathan Coley appears on town and church record. As printed, the record gives her name as Mabel. See, however, Redding Vital Statistics, 2: 33. There is nothing but association to indicate her parentage.



ford.<sup>1</sup> Shortly after that he left home. He was the first of the name to settle west of the Connecticut River. He became a resident of Fairfield, and very soon thereafter married Eleanor Andrews, a descendant of Francis Andrews, one of the original proprietors of Hartford and an early resident of Fairfield, but of no known relationship to the Andrews family of Boxford.

Through his marriage with Eleanor Andrews, Elias Bixby became possessed of property,<sup>2</sup> to which he added by purchase. The town records of Fairfield and the county court records at Bridgeport show not only his numerous transactions in lands, but that he was not fortunate in his business transactions. It is very probable that this failure to retain the considerable estate he at one time possessed, led to his changes of residence in Fairfield, and finally his removal to Massachusetts and to Pennsylvania.

His residence in Fairfield was apparently in the western part. On the 1st and 2nd of August, 1729, he purchased two lots of land, comprising more than seven acres of land, near the Saugatuck River, of John and Samuel Fountain.<sup>3</sup> The following month he conveyed to John Cooley eight acres near the Saugatuck River, and on the same day received of Cooley four acres at Turkey Hill, which the next month he conveyed to Samuel Couch, Jr.<sup>4</sup> Unfortunately there is a hiatus in the Green's Farm church records, which begin in 1715, from 1723 to 1742. Elias Bixby was clerk of the train band in the West parish of Fairfield in 1735,<sup>5</sup> and in October of that year reported to the General Assembly the election of officers by that company. On the 8 March, 1738-9, he purchased of Jonathan Stidevant of Worcestershire, N. Y., a house and twenty acres near Flat Rock in Ridgefield, paying therefore £200.<sup>3</sup> On the 24 May, 1739, he registered with the Ridgefield town clerk his cattle mark: "Elias Bixby's Ear mark is a hole in ye near ear and a half penny on ye under side of ye off ear." He sold his Ridgefield farm 31 March, 1741.<sup>3</sup> The following year he is again found at Green's Farms, where he purchased of Nathaniel Hubbard one half of the latter's home-lot, 19 June, 1742,<sup>6</sup> which, however, he sold the following December. He had children baptized there in 1742 and 1746.

<sup>1</sup> Essex Probate.

<sup>2</sup> Fairfield Land and Probate records.

<sup>3</sup> Ridgefield Land records.

<sup>4</sup> Fairfield Land records, 4:403-406.

<sup>5</sup> Connecticut Archives, Military Series, 1, Vol. 11, 232.

<sup>6</sup> Fairfield Land records, 7:447.



On the 27 March, 1748, his wife was admitted to the Redding church. He was taxed in Redding Parish in 1749, being rated at £97-14 besides £20 "trade," showing he was engaged at that time as a merchant.<sup>1</sup> On the 18 Feb., 1754, the homestead, consisting of thirty three acres,<sup>2</sup> was sold to Henry Dibble, and Elias removed to Sheffield in the southwestern corner of Massachusetts. He was living there at the time he visited Albany in 1756 and took his nephew Nathaniel (1821) from the army hospital there to his own home, afterward accompanying him to Boxford.<sup>3</sup>

On 27 June, 1757, described as "living on Province land west of Sheffield" he purchased of Samuel Messenger of Sheffield one-half of the sixty-fourth part of Nobletown, being a half right. Nobletown for many years was disputed territory between Massachusetts and New York. Although at the time of the Revolution practically a part of Massachusetts, in the final settlement the township was assigned to New York and is now embraced in the town of Hillsdale. Mr. Bixby sold this half right on the 17 Oct., 1757, and was then described as of Nobletown.<sup>4</sup> The purchaser, Hezekiah Deforest of Norwalk, settled an account due the Sterling store at Wilton from Bixby in January following his purchase, probably as part of the consideration.<sup>5</sup> Elias Bixby was one of the wardens of the Episcopal church in Nobletown, which was served by the rector of St. James, Great Barrington, 12 April, 1773. Apparently he remained in Nobletown until he removed to the Susquehannah Purchase in that part of Pennsylvania under the jurisdiction of Connecticut. This removal was probably early in 1773. Elias Bixby, James Bagley and Zacher H. Squire, all of Nobletown, on 24 April, 1773, bought of John Crane and Hannah, his wife, of the same place, their rights in one third of one right in the Susquehannah Purchase,<sup>6</sup> paying therefor £3. Elias Bixby was accompanied by his son, David, in this removal to the Susquehannah Purchase. An old account book, formerly belonging to Mathias Hollenback, of the

<sup>1</sup> Connecticut Archives: Ecclesiastical Series, VIII, 2516.

<sup>2</sup> In the deed this land is described as partly of Applegates and partly of Lockwood's Long Lots, and "where I now dwell." (*Fairfield Land Records*, 11: 224.) As Elias Bixby dealt frequently in lands, buying for investment or speculation, it is difficult to follow his own removals.

<sup>3</sup> Perley: Dwellings of Boxford, reprinted from Essex Institute Hist. Col., vol. 28.

<sup>4</sup> For information concerning Nobletown see Converse and Allied families, p. 814, and Documentary History of New York, vol. 3. The Province lands west of Sheffield were offered at sale by Massachusetts in 1754.

<sup>5</sup> Sterling store accounts in possession of D. H. Van Hoosear of Wilton, Conn. Elias Bixby and several members of his family had open accounts with the proprietor of this store.

<sup>6</sup> Westmoreland Land Records, at State Library, Hartford, Conn.

firm of M. and J. Hollenback, in the possession of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, Wilkes Barre, Pa., contains entries, between 13 Dec., 1774, and 21 Oct., 1776, eighteen charges in all, against "Elias Bigsby, Sr." On the 18 Oct., 1774, sugar, shoes, a deck of cards, and mittens are charged to "Elias Bigsby, Jr."

A promissory note, dated 20 Oct., 1775, signed by Elias Bigsby, is found on the cover of one of the books of account of the Hollenbacks. It is not only signed by but made payable on, 1 May, to Elias Bigsby, and was witnessed by William Cook and Mathy Hollenbeak. The signature is the same as on a note given by the younger Elias, now on file among the papers relating to his estate. Immediately below is the following:

"Elias Bigsby his and pen  
He will be good but ———."

A facsimile is shown opposite page 158.

The peculiarities of these entries are such that they may be but the careless scribbling and fooling of the younger Elias, known to have been a clerk in the store.<sup>1</sup>

Elias Bixby was rated at £26 in the list of taxables in Wilkes-Barre district in Aug., 1776. David Bixby was rated at Kingston.

The rate lists of Nov., 1778, and later omit the name of Elias, and there can be little doubt that he had returned to Massachusetts before the time of the Wyoming massacre, when his son, David, and nephew, Elias, lost their lives. The list of losses sustained at that time by the inhabitants of the valley does not contain the name of Elias Bixby, nor is there any mention of him by his grandson, who remembered the flight from the settlement.

Elias Bixby next appears at Great Barrington in 1785. He was then in his seventy ninth year. Reuben Walton of Watertown, Conn., had been appointed administrator on the estate of Jonathan Prindle of Great Barrington, and to comply with the law gave as sureties in £200, 1 March, 1785, David Arnold and Elias Bixby. Sometime between the 6 Dec., 1785, and 28 Jan., 1787, undoubtedly in the year 1786, Elias Bixby married Margaret Prindle, the widow of the Jonathan mentioned above, for on 28 Jan., 1787, Walton sold to Margaret Bigsbe, now wife of Elias Bigsbe, 10½ acres out of the estate.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> For an account of Elias Bixby, Jr., see (1862-1).

<sup>2</sup> Berkshire Deeds, 20: 438.

Jonathan Prindle was a loyalist and had died within the British lines at New York. He had left his family in a dependent state when he fled from his home.<sup>1</sup>

Elias Bixby is enumerated in the census of 1790, as of Great Barrington, the head of a family consisting of himself, another male over sixteen years of age, and four females.

It may be that the male over sixteen years of age living with him was his grandson, John Bixby, who married at Great Barrington.

On the 28 Jan., 1793, Elias and Margaret Bixby conveyed property in Great Barrington to Ela and Michael Prindle, and on the 9 Sept., 1794, Margaret Bixby, Ella and Michael Prindle, all of Great Barrington, convey fifty three acres to Moses Church.<sup>2</sup> It is evident, as his name is not found in the deed of Sept., 1794, that Elias Bixby had deceased. The disposal by deed, to his stepchildren, of what interest had come to him by his marriage with their mother, and apparently of some estate he had himself purchased, was evidently in expectation of his death, and probably accounts for there being no administration granted on his estate.

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III. SUSANNA BIXBY (*Jonathan, Joseph*), born at Boxford, Mass.; baptized there 29 June, 1713; died 16 Jan., 1779, at Haverhill, Mass., aged sixty four years;<sup>3</sup> married 3 April, 1734, at Haverhill,<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Jonathan Prindle was born 21 June, 1748, and was the son of Lieut. Jonathan Prindle, who died at Watertown, Conn., 10 April, 1782. He married, 13 Oct., 1765, Margaret Hall and had three children; Ela, born in 1770, Michael, born in 1771, and Bethel, baptized 14 Jan., 1776, at St. James, Great Barrington. Lieut. Jonathan Prindle bequeathed lands in Great Barrington to the heirs of his son Jonathan. When administration was granted to Reuben Welton on the estate of the younger Jonathan Prindle, an allowance of £13 was made to the widow, and seven acres of land with the dwelling house were set off to her as dower. Before the 6 Dec., 1785, the house, barn, and twenty acres of land had been sold to her, and on the 25 Jan., 1787, the administrator conveyed to her 10½ acres in Lot 12 in the West Division of lands at Great Barrington, bounded north on land that day sold to Elias Bixby, reserving the use and improvements of the seven acres and dwelling already set off as dower. There were many staunch loyalists in western Massachusetts, and in 1777 events emboldened them to take an outspoken course. Their Whig neighbors placed them in a very uncomfortable position, some were jailed. In Massachusetts Archives, 187: 218, there is a petition, dated at Great Barrington, 12 Sept., 1781, from the widow, Margaret Prindle. She stated that her husband, Jonathan Prindle, "absconded" in 1777, going to New York, leaving her with three small children whom she supported with difficulty, having only twenty two acres of land and a very poor house and barn. Her husband's estate was also indebted (the administrator found it insolvent) to nearly half its value. She further declared that her husband was one of the loyalists who had been banished from Massachusetts by the act of 16 Oct., 1778, and that he had died in 1781. She asked that his estate be not confiscated, and that she be allowed to retain it, for she has a father and brother loyal to the country. Her prayer was granted, as no further steps were taken to confiscate the estate. Ella Prindle removed to Brookfield, Chenango Co., N. Y. Ella and Olive Prindle of that place deed to Elias Bixby (undoubtedly Elias (186J)) thirty five acres there, 23 Oct., 1799.

<sup>2</sup> Berkshire Deeds, 31: 474; 32: 383.

<sup>3</sup> Inscription on gravestone.

<sup>4</sup> Boxford Vital Records, also recorded on Haverhill records.

CAPT. DANIEL JOHNSON of Haverhill, born 12 Feb., 1711-2, died 8 March, 1794, aged eighty two years, at Haverhill.<sup>1</sup> He married, second, 21 Sept., 1779, Susanna Russell, widow,<sup>2</sup> who died 21 Jan., 1802, aged seventy six years.<sup>3</sup>

Capt. Johnson was son of Thomas and Rachel (Ordway) Johnson, grandson of Lieut. John and Mary (Mousal) Johnson, great-grandson of John and Elizabeth (Maverick) Johnson, who removed from Charlestown to Haverhill in 1657. The name of Elizabeth Maverick's father, Elias Maverick, was continued in the Johnson family for over a century, either by naming sons Maverick or Elias. The progenitor of this family was William Johnson who was born about 1603 and died 9 Dec., 1677, at Charlestown. He was admitted a freeman of the Massachusetts Bay Company, 4 March, 1634-5. His wife was Elizabeth, who died 6 Oct., 1684. He is not known to have been a relative of Capt. Edward Johnson, as frequently asserted. See New England Historical Genealogical Register, vol. 33. *Children, born at Haverhill:*<sup>2</sup>

- 1 ELIAS JOHNSON, born 28 Feb., 1734-5; married Elizabeth Bixby (1822).
- 2 TIMOTHY JOHNSON, born 17 April, 1737; married 23 March, 1762, Mary Greely,<sup>2</sup> born 1 Jan., 1739-40, daughter of Benjamin and Ruth (Whittier) Greely of Haverhill.<sup>3</sup> He was an officer in the army, during the Revolution, and had the rank of captain.  
Children, born at Haverhill:<sup>2</sup>
  1. Sarah Johnson, born 27 March, 1763.
  2. Hannah Johnson, born 19 March, 1765.
  3. Timothy Johnson, born 22 May, 1768.
  4. Daniel Johnson, born 22 Dec., 1770.
  5. James Johnson, born 27 July, 1775; died 8 Feb., 1776.
  6. Polly Johnson, born 15 Feb., 1778.
- 3 LYDIA JOHNSON, born 18 May, 1739; died 1826; married 29 Dec., 1763, Moses Davis, of Andover,<sup>2</sup> son of Moses Davis (*Elisha, James, James*).  
Children:<sup>4</sup>
  1. Rebecca Davis, married Robert Taylor of Ashby.
  2. Susanna Davis, married Moses Hale of Chelmsford, Mass.
  3. Johnson Davis, of Chelmsford, married Betsey Fletcher.
  4. Elisha Davis, died young.
  5. Lydia Davis, married ——— Webster.
  6. Sarah Davis, married Isaac Stevens of Boston.
  7. Polly Davis, married Jonathan Richardson of Townsend.
- 4 SUSANNA JOHNSON, born 17 Aug., 1743.
- 5 MARY JOHNSON, born 19 May, 1749.
- 6 RACHEL JOHNSON, born 16 June, 1753.  
Perhaps other children.

<sup>1</sup> Inscription on gravestone.

<sup>2</sup> Haverhill Vital Records.

<sup>3</sup> Greeley Genealogy.

<sup>4</sup> Information of Mrs. Kate Hale Smith of Boston, a descendant of Susanna (Davis) Hale. Among the descendants of Lydia (Johnson) Davis are Hon. George von L. Meyer, Robert Treat Paine, Hon. Moses T. Stevens, and Mrs. Alice Pew. In 1900 there were over one hundred living descendants of Lydia (Johnson) Davis.

## FOURTH GENERATION





## FOURTH GENERATION

### IIII

IV. LYDIA BIXBY (*Joseph, Joseph, Joseph*), born 26 Dec., probably 1707; baptized July, 1708, at Topsfield, Mass.; married 9 May, 1732, at Hopkinton, Mass.,<sup>1</sup> DAVID FOSTER, who died there 11 July, 1758.<sup>1</sup> Administration on his estate, which was not large, and proved insolvent, was granted to the widow 12 March, 1759.<sup>2</sup> Abner and Thomas Bixby were the chief creditors.

*Children, born at Hopkinton:*<sup>1</sup>

- 1 LYDIA FOSTER, born 8 Feb., 1734-5; died 25 Oct., 1735.
- 2 LYDIA FOSTER, born 22 Jan., 1736-7; died 14 Jan., 1741-2.
- 3 DAVID FOSTER, born 9 Aug., 1738; died 15 Feb., 1741-2.
- 4 BETHIA FOSTER, born 5 Oct., 1741.
- 5 ABIGAIL FOSTER, born 20 July, 1744.

### IIII2

IV. JOSEPH BIXBY (*Joseph, Joseph, Joseph*), born 10 Sept., 1710, at Boxford, Mass.; died, perhaps at Framingham, Mass., in 1776, but later than 4 March, 1776, as his son Joseph was styled "Jr." in the minutes of a town meeting held that day, but thereafter loses that style; married 30 March, 1732, at Framingham, MEHITABLE RUGG,<sup>3</sup> daughter of Jonathan and Hannah (Singletary) Rugg of Framingham, born there 15 Sept., 1711.<sup>4</sup> She was admitted to the church at Hopkinton, 18 July, 1736, from Framingham.<sup>5</sup>

*Children, all but the youngest, born at Hopkinton:*<sup>6</sup>

- 1- 1 MEHITABLE, born 31 Jan., 1732-3; married James Haven. Hopkinton church records note the baptism of "Hepzibah," daughter of Joseph Bixby, 4 Feb., 1732-3.

<sup>1</sup> Hopkinton Vital Records.

<sup>2</sup> Middlesex Probate, 8173.

<sup>3</sup> Framingham records, Vol. 2. The original should be used, as the copy by Barry omits many names. "Vital Records" have been published since.

<sup>4</sup> Temple: History of Framingham. The Bixby Ms. queries if the mother of the youngest child could have been a Fairbanks. There is no indication from any record examined that Joseph was married more than once.

<sup>5</sup> Hopkinton church records; where also are found the baptisms of the five eldest children.

<sup>6</sup> Hopkinton records. Dates between 1 Jan. and 24 March, inclusive, prior to 1752, were generally ascribed to a year earlier than our present reckoning, but, although it was generally the custom to double date all entries in the records during that period, many clerks anticipated the change to "New Style" by many years. The dates here given, relating to the Hopkinton families, were obtained by a member of the family, and differ slightly in some instances from the printed "Vital Records."

- 2- 2 JOSEPH, born 1 March, 1735; baptized the following day; married Sarah Haven.
- 3 HANNAH, born 31 Oct., 1737; baptized 6 Nov., 1737; married 18 March, 1754, at Framingham, Squire Haven, born 24 June, 1734, died 29 March, 1789, at Bellingham, Mass.,<sup>1</sup> son of James and Sarah Haven of Framingham.
- 4- 4 LYDIA, born 10 Feb., 1740; baptized 16 Feb., 1739-40; married David Cutler.
- 5- 5 JONATHAN, born 22 July, 1742; baptized 7 Aug., 1747; married Eunice Parker; (2) Elizabeth Hammond.
- 6 BETTY, born 22 Aug., 1744. (Betsy Bixby and Thomas Tolman, both of Newton, were married there 19 Nov., 1795.)
- 7- 7 NATHAN, born 14 Oct., 1746;<sup>2</sup> married Martha Twitchel.
- 8- 8 JOHN, born 8 Oct., 1750, at Framingham; married Ann Johnson.

JOSEPH BIXBY purchased two parcels of land with buildings, at Park's corner, Framingham, of David Mellen, 24 Dec., 1748; 120 acres on the west side of a river, and five acres meadow land. The consideration was £2900 old tenor, a much depreciated currency.<sup>3</sup>

It is possible that his father accompanied him to Framingham. On 22 Aug., 1749, the town of Framingham voted that the bounds of the centre school district be from the Centre to Moses Learned, Joseph Byxbe,<sup>4</sup> and others, and that the outskirts not included in the above bounds be divided into eight school districts.

In 1763, a Baptist society was organized in Framingham. A few persons were baptized the preceding year. Preaching occurred probably as early as 1757. Among those whose minister's rate was abated in 1764, for the preceding year, because of affiliation with the Baptist society, was Joseph Byxbe.<sup>5</sup> Most of the others belonged to the Haven family. Bixby's request that his minister's rate for 1762 be abated was refused. There is some doubt

<sup>1</sup> This death record appears in the printed "Vital Records," as "——— Haven, Esquire." The item was taken from the Wright Diary.

<sup>2</sup> The Bixby Ms. gives Nathan's birth as 20 Nov., 1748. Dr. A. B. Ferguson (11128. J3-7) of Salem and Mr. J. W. Searles (11128. J8) give his birth as of 25 Nov., 1745. A son Mathew, born 24 Oct., 1746, is given in the Bixby Ms. The Hopkinton record plainly gives Nathan's birth as 14 Oct., 1746. The difference of ten days is the difference between new and old style dating. Mr. E. A. Milliken (11128.6-4) was told by Julia (Bixby) Milliken (11128.6), when she was ninety years old, that her grandfather Nathan's mother was Mehitable Rugg.

<sup>3</sup> Middlesex Deeds, 48: 97.

<sup>4</sup> In the town record the letters "Jo" follow the name of Joseph Bixby, and an attempt was made to erase them. Evidently the clerk started to write the name of John Drury, but after beginning the name John wrote the name Nathaniel Pratt, and then followed with Drury. Immediately below occurs the name Thomas Winch "Jun.," which was the customary manner of the clerk in writing Junior. Temple misread the record "Joseph Bixby, Jr."

<sup>5</sup> Temple: History of Framingham, pp. 345, 404, 477, corrected by reference to original record.

if a church was organized at that time. The society was not numerically a strong one until 1814. Further abatements are not noted in the town records until 1776. A town vote, however, was not necessary.

Temple says that Joseph Bixby, "Jr.," was one of the earliest Baptist preachers in Framingham. He was mistaken in this, as he confounded father and son.

The names of Joseph Bixby and Joseph Bixby, Jr., appear on the list of men in the company of Capt. Henry Emms, 22 April, 1757, the former on the alarm list, the latter on the train band list, but was later crossed off.<sup>1</sup> The Joseph Bixby who was a member of the Committee of Correspondence and Safety in Framingham, elected in 1778, was probably Joseph (11122), who was frequently elected to town office.

### 1113

IV. ABNER BIXBY (*Joseph, Joseph, Joseph*), born 30 Aug., 1712, at Boxford, Mass.; died 29 April, 1801, at Peru, Mass.;<sup>2</sup> married 5 Feb., 1733-4, THAMAZINE NURSE,<sup>3</sup> born 7 June, 1718, daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Haven) Nurse of Framingham, Mass.<sup>4</sup> She was living in 1787. Her grandfather, Benjamin Nurse, was son of Francis and Rebecca Nurse of Salem Village, Mass., whose tragic story, drawn from the records, is so well told by Charles W. Upham in his *History of Witchcraft in Salem Village*. Rebecca Nurse, in spite of the strong endorsement given her by life-long acquaintances, was sentenced to die for the imaginary crime of witchcraft, and was hung 19 July, 1692.

*Children, except the youngest, born at Hopkinton, Mass.:<sup>5</sup>*

- 1 ABNER, born 20 April, baptized 30 May, 1736; died 17 Sept., 1736.<sup>5</sup>
- 2 ELIZABETH, born 16 Oct., baptized 22 Oct., 1737; died 10 March, 1760.<sup>5</sup>
- 3 BENJAMIN, born 23 Feb., 1740; died 24 Oct., (1746) 1748.
- 4 ABNER, born 22 Feb., baptized 7 March, 1742; died 1 Dec., 1748.
- 5- 5 EBENEZER, born 27 March, 1744; married Hannah Babcock.
- 6 ALICE (Ellis), born 1 April, 1746.
- 7 MARY, born 1 Jan., 1748-9.
- 8- 8 BENJAMIN, born 10 Oct., 1751; married Mary Guest.

<sup>1</sup> Massachusetts Archives, 95: 302.

<sup>2</sup> Peru Vital Records.

<sup>3</sup> Hopkinton records. The marriage on the church record is said to be recorded as of Abner

"Bisbee," 6 Feb.

<sup>4</sup> Temple: History of Framingham.

<sup>5</sup> Hopkinton town and church records.

- 9 AARON, born 19 Jan., 1754; died 3 July, 1816, at Hinsdale, Mass.;<sup>1</sup> married Abigail,<sup>2</sup> who died 8 Nov., 1823,<sup>3</sup> aged 80 years.<sup>1</sup> There is no record of children born to Aaron either at Peru or Hinsdale, nor any settlement of his estate. In 1798 he owned and occupied a farm of 76 acres in Partridgefield, Mass.<sup>4</sup> He received the homestead from his father in consideration of caring for his parents. This farm he sold to Samuel Matthews, 18 Feb., 1802, for \$1600, and the same day took a life lease of the property from Matthews to himself and wife Abigail, or the survivor, paying therefor \$500.<sup>5</sup>

During the Revolution he served from 22 Aug. to 29 Aug., 1777, "on an expedition to Bennington"<sup>6</sup> in Capt. William Fletcher's Co., Col. Benjamin Simond's Regt., and from 12 Oct. to 25 Oct., 1781, "on the alarm at Saratoga"<sup>7</sup> in Capt. Joel Stevens' Co., chiefly raised in Pittsfield, Col. David Rossiter's Regt. His name also appears on a pay roll of six months' men, raised by the town of Washington, for service in the Continental army. He is reported as marched 3 July, 1780; discharged 6 Jan., 1781; and, described as Aaron Bigsby, as having passed muster, the latter roll being dated at Camp Totoway, 25 Oct., 1780.<sup>8</sup>

It is probable that he responded to calls for the militia in 1778, as his brother Benjamin in his pension declaration mentions that he served with him in two tours of service in 1778.

- J-10 MOSES, born 4 May, 1756; married Dorothy Witter.

- 11 ABNER, born 16 June, 1758; died 17 June, 1759.

- 12 PELETIAH,<sup>7</sup> born 8 June, (1759) 1760; baptized 7 June, 1761. He was probably the Pelatiah Bixby killed in the service 19 Oct., 1780, as reported in return of company commanded by Capt. Spoor, Col. John J. Brown's Berkshire regiment raised, to reinforce the Continental army, for a term of three months, 18 July, 1780. He had previously enlisted for three months in company commanded by Capt. Asa Barnes, 3d Regt., Col. Israel Chapin, 16 Oct., 1779. He was discharged 21 Nov. 1779.<sup>8</sup> This also was Continental service. Hopkinton church records record the death of "wife of Pelitiah Bixby, Nov., 1795."

- M-13 BETHIA, born 20 Sept., baptized 26 Sept., 1762,<sup>9</sup> at Framingham; married Col. William Richards.

Thamazine Bixby, wife of ABNER BIXBY, was admitted to the church in Hopkinton 16 Feb., 1739-40. On 1 June, 1762, her father deeded to her husband and herself all his real estate in Framingham, reserving possession until his own death.<sup>10</sup> On 3 May,

<sup>1</sup> Hinsdale Vital Records.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. D. H. Van Hoosear found a record at Pittsfield, Mass., of the marriage in Sept., 1779, of "Mr. Bixby and Mrs. Foster, Partridgefield." (*Pittsfield Vital Statistics*, 1:70.) In a Ms. collection entitled "Pittsfield Families," in the library of the N. E. Hist. Gen. Soc., this record appears, "Bixby —, and Mrs. Foster Partridge in Sept., 1779." Possibly this is the marriage of Aaron Bixby. Levi Bixby of Winchendon married 13 May, 1779, Mrs. Tabitha (Foster) Boynton. There is, however, no trace of Levi Bixby in Berkshire.

<sup>3</sup> Her death is entered in the Bixby Ms. as 18 Nov., 1823. Her death is also found recorded at Middlefield, 11 Nov., 1823. The town record gives her age as 80 years, and the church record as 79 years. Middlefield was established from parts of Becket, Partridgefield and adjoining towns.

<sup>4</sup> U. S. Direct Tax.

<sup>5</sup> History of Pittsfield, 1:483.

<sup>6</sup> Berkshire Deeds, 40:635, 46:377.

<sup>7</sup> Bixby Ms. Temple gives birth as 2 Sept.

<sup>8</sup> Mass. Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolution.

<sup>9</sup> Middlesex Deeds, 63:582.

<sup>10</sup> The name is spelled Peletiah, Pelatiah, and Pelitiah.



1762, Framingham was permitted to caution Abner Byxbe, Thomasine, his wife, and their children, Ebenezer, Ellis, Mary, Benjamin, Aaron, Moses, and Pelatiah, who came from Hopkinton 25 March last.<sup>1</sup> On the 25 June, 1764, Abner Bixby purchased of Aaron Nurse, of Westborough, 73 acres in Framingham, paying therefor £73. Other purchases of land followed.<sup>2</sup> On the 8 Dec., 1773, calling himself of Framingham, he sold 90 acres there to Richard Fisk for £465. His wife did not join in the deed. This is the year he is supposed to have removed to Partridgefield, which later became Peru.

He was chosen tything-man in Framingham 5 March, 1764, warden in 1765, surveyor of highways<sup>3</sup> and collector of highway rates with Joseph Byxbe, Jr., 7 March, 1768, tything-man again in 1770, and one of the overseers of the poor the following year.<sup>4</sup> The name of Abner Byxbe appears on the alarm list of the company commanded by Capt. John Jones, 26 April, 1756, being the second company in Hopkinton.<sup>5</sup>

Abner Bixby settled in that part of Partridgefield which later was set off as Hinsdale. On the 20 March, 1776, he purchased two hundred acres in Partridgefield from Oliver Partridge of Hatfield. This became his homestead. In 1787, he gave to his son Aaron the lot he, Abner, then lived upon, with the buildings thereon, reserving the west end of the dwelling house for his own use. The consideration named was £200, but from a bond dated the same day it appears that the actual consideration was the care and support of his parents during their life. The land conveyed consisted of seventy five acres. Another seventy five acres had been conveyed in 1781 to Joseph Witter, Jr., of Washington, and the bounds of this tract were, in part, lands of Benjamin Bixby.<sup>6</sup>

In the census of 1790, Abner Bigsbee of Partridgefield is enumerated as head of a family consisting of three males over sixteen years and two females.

#### 1151

IV. ANDREW BIXBY (*John, Joseph, Joseph*), born 14 Nov., 1723, at Boxford, Mass.; died, it is said, at Windsor, N. H.;<sup>7</sup> married

<sup>1</sup> Middlesex Sessions. Cornelius Clafin and family also settled in Framingham that year, having previously lived in Hopkinton.

<sup>2</sup> Middlesex Deeds.

<sup>3</sup> Temple: History of Framingham.

<sup>4</sup> Framingham town proceedings.

<sup>5</sup> Mass. Archives, 95: 317.

<sup>6</sup> Berkshire Deeds, 21: 251, 258; 25: 303, 305.

<sup>7</sup> Cole Genealogy, p. 118.

4 Nov., 1746, at Boxford, SUSANNA COLE,<sup>1</sup> daughter of Samuel and Sarah Cole,<sup>2</sup> of Boxford.

*Children, probably born at Amherst, N. H.:*

- 1- 1 MARY, married David Hildreth.
- 2- 2 DANIEL, married Sarah Blanchard.
- 3 OLIVE, born 1761; died 4 Jan., 1855,<sup>3</sup> at Antrim, N. H.; married 12 Feb., 1784,<sup>3</sup> at Hillsborough, N. H., Stephen Wyman, baptized 30 Oct., 1757, died 31 Oct., 1828, at Windsor, son of Timothy and Sarah (Lock) Wyman.<sup>4</sup> Administration on her estate was granted 6 Feb., 1855. No issue.
- 4- 4 HANNAH, married Joshua Jones.
- 5- 5 JOHN, born about 1761; married Rebecca Goodell; (2) Sally Goodell.
- 6 ANDREW, died of fever and ague at "Sundown," Genesee Valley, N. Y., whither he had removed with the family of Joshua Jones, his brother-in-law.

ANDREW BIXBY probably lived in Amherst until 1770. Amherst was so named in 1760, the year it was incorporated by New Hampshire, in compliment to General Jeffrey Amherst. It was one of the Narragansett townships granted by Massachusetts in 1733, at a time when Massachusetts claimed that part of New Hampshire, and was called Souhegan West. The settlement took its name from the Souhegan River, which flows through the town. Andrew Bixby was one of the petitioners in 1753 for enlargement of bounds and for a town charter.<sup>5</sup> He appears as a purchaser of land in 1753, and sold land there in 1760. In 1764 he sold to Solomon Hutchinson a first and second division lot, but conveyed only one half of the mill thereon, with the privileges appurtenant thereto. The tract conveyed comprised 126 acres. On the 25 July, 1766, he mortgaged 69 acres, comprising his homestead, and also 40 acres, to Samson Stoddard, and in 1770 sold to Hezekiah Lovejoy his lands and buildings in Amherst, including a saw-mill.<sup>6</sup> The homestead was described as a plot of 62 acres, together with another of 22 acres, and buildings thereon, with a saw-mill on a brook running through the larger tract. His wife Susanna joined in the deed and one of the witnesses was Mary Bixby.

<sup>1</sup> Boxford Vital Records; he is styled of Souhegan West.

<sup>2</sup> Cole Genealogy, p. 118.

<sup>3</sup> Pension papers. Olive Wyman, of Antrim, N. H., aged 82 years, widow of Stephen, applied for a pension, 17 May, 1843. From her application, which was approved, it appears that Stephen Wyman lived in or near Woburn, Mass., at the time of his enlistment, 28 April, 1775, in Capt. John Fuller's Co., Col. Whitcomb's Regt. He served until Oct., 1775. He enlisted 1 Jan., 1776, and served one year and six weeks in Capt. John Wood's Co., Col. Baldwin's Regt.

<sup>4</sup> Wyman Genealogy (in Ms.) N. E. Hist. Gen. Soc.

<sup>5</sup> N. H. State Papers, Vol. 11.

<sup>6</sup> N. H. Deeds: 53:386; 86:32; 89:11; 101:115.

The supposition has been advanced by Mr. Walter Gibson, of Concord, N. H., that Andrew Bixby was one of a small band of settlers who in 1741 began the settlement at Hillsborough, but no proof of his being there at that early date has been found. Hillsborough was abandoned by its inhabitants in 1746, and the town was not re-occupied until 1762, after the close of the French and Indian War. On the 26 Feb., 1745, Andrew Bixby, of Souhegan West, yeoman, was admitted to administer upon the estate of his father. In 1747 he was one of the petitioners representing the weak and exposed state of the settlement, then consisting of 35 families, there being 58 men of the age of sixteen years and upwards. A guard of 16 soldiers was voted the settlement.<sup>1</sup> Andrew Bixby is named in the quitclaim deed of the Masonian Proprietors, 1 Dec., 1759,<sup>2</sup> and as a proprietor of Amherst in 1765.

It was probable that he removed to Hillsborough about the time he sold his homestead in Amherst, although it is said his name appears first on the records of the former town in 1774. He was moderator of the town meeting in 1777.<sup>3</sup> His farm was in the west part of the town, and remained in the family for three generations.

The name of Andrew Bixbe appears on the list of alarm men in Hillsborough, June, 1776, and that of Andrew Bixbe, junior, "newly added", among the train band.<sup>4</sup> In 1784, he was one of the petitioners from Hillsborough who state they had deeds from John Hill late of Boston, and in 1790, with John Bixbe and other residents of a part of Hillsborough, joined with the inhabitants of Campbell's Gore, among whom was Daniel Bixbe, asking to be set up as a separate town. In a list of voters in Campbell's Gore in 1791, the name of Daniel Bixbe is not found. Campbell's Gore was incorporated in 1798 as Windsor. Andrew Bixby had previously, in Feb., 1775, joined with Camden petitioners for a bridge. Part of Hillsborough and Society land was known as Camden. Camden is now Washington.

A sketch of this branch of the family was published in the Hillsborough Messenger of 1 Oct., 1908, by Dr. John Goodell.

<sup>1</sup> Secomb: History of Amherst, N. H. Massachusetts had previously protected the settlement.

<sup>2</sup> N. H. State Papers. Thomas Bigsby was also a grantee.

<sup>3</sup> Information of Miss Carrie Bixby (12334.76-2), Hillsborough, N. H.

<sup>4</sup> N. H. State Papers, vol. 12, p. 205.

## 1172

IV. SARAH BIXBY (*Thomas, Joseph, Joseph*), born 28 June, 1728, at Hopkinton, Mass.; died "about 1803,"<sup>1</sup> married 16 Feb., 1757, at Southborough, Mass., WILLIAM RICHARDS,<sup>2</sup> born 25 Feb., 1729-30,<sup>3</sup> died "about 1794," son of Joseph and Mary (Bowden) Richards.<sup>1</sup> The intention of marriage was published 9 Oct., 1756. William Richards married, first, 21 Nov., 1753, Elizabeth Knapp,<sup>3</sup> who died 25 Jan., 1756. Their son, Col. William Richards of Partridgefield, Mass., born 17 Jan., 1756, at Southborough, married Bethia Bixby, daughter of Abner Bixby (1113). William Richards removed to Framingham, Mass., and was admitted to the church there in 1788, from Southborough.<sup>3</sup> He later settled at Richmond, Mass.

*Children, born at Southborough:*<sup>2</sup>

- 1 SARAH RICHARDS, born 12 Aug., 1757; died young.
- 2 ELIZABETH RICHARDS, born 4 Feb., 1760; married, 1784, Nathan Kendall of Framingham.
- 3 JOSEPH RICHARDS, born 16 March, 1762; married Rhoda Howe, an aunt of Brigham Young of the Mormon church. They removed to Hopkinton in 1789, thence to Richmond.<sup>3</sup>

Children:

  1. Joseph Richards, born 29 Sept., 1782; married Nancy Coda.
  2. Rhoda Richards, born 8 Aug., 1784.
  3. Susanna Richards, born 13 Aug., 1786.
  4. Phineas Richards, born 15 Nov., 1788.
  5. Levi Richards, born 7 Dec., 1790; died 18 June, 1795.
  6. Nancy Richards, born 22 Nov., 1792.
  7. Hepzibah Richards, born 28 July, 1795.
  8. Betsy Richards, born 17 May, 1797.
  9. Levi Richards, born 4 April, 1799; a man of talents and of high official position in the Mormon church.
  10. Willard Richards, born 24 June, 1804; died 11 March, 1856; a physician, and at one time second in office in the Mormon church.
- 4 THOMAS RICHARDS, born 16 April, 1764; died 9 Dec., 1844; removed to Sturbridge, Mass., in 1804; he married, May, 1781, Betsey Nurse, who died the same year; (2) Polly Chamberlain, who died 18 Feb., 1805, at Brookfield, Conn.; (3) Lucy Wood.

*Children, by second marriage:*

1. Sullivan Richards, born 20 June, 1794.
2. Betsy Richards, born 29 May, 1795.
3. Curtis Richards, born 10 June, 1796.
4. Hollis Richards, born 9 March, 1798.
5. William Richards, born 7 May, 1799.
6. Maria Richards, born 28 Aug., 1800.
7. Emery Richards, born 2 April, 1802.

<sup>1</sup> Morse: Genealogical Register, Richards, p. 165.

<sup>2</sup> Southborough Vital Records.

<sup>3</sup> Temple: History of Framingham.



8. Willard Richards, born 6 Aug., 1803.
9. Mary C. Richards, born 16 Feb., 1805.<sup>1</sup>
- 5 HEPZIBAH RICHARDS, born 9 July, 1766; died 1856; married William Leadbetter of Richmond, Va.

## 1173

IV. THOMAS BIXBY (*Thomas, Joseph, Joseph*), born 28 Jan., 1729-30, at Hopkinton, Mass.; married 29 March, 1759, LOIS WALKER, of Hopkinton, who was admitted to the church there 24 July, 1763.

Thomas Bixby was styled Junior in 1770. There was a Thomas Byxbe in the train band at Hopkinton, being the second company, under the command of Capt. John Jones, 26 April, 1756. Because of his father's age at this time, this was undoubtedly Thomas Bixby, Jr.<sup>2</sup> He purchased 50 acres of James Greenwood, 17 Jan., 1752, in the township of Bogniog.<sup>3</sup>

*Children, from the records of Christ Church, Hopkinton:*

- 1 ALICE, baptized 17 Aug., 1760; died Aug., 1831, at Hopkinton,<sup>4</sup> "aged 70 years."<sup>5</sup>
- 2- 2 LOIS, baptized 11 (Dec.) Oct., 1761; married Jacob Parker.
- 3 SUSANNAH, baptized 16 Oct., 1763.
- 4 SARAH, baptized 1 Dec., 1765.<sup>6</sup>
- 5 HANNAH, baptized 3 July, 1768; probably died in infancy.
- 6- 6 JOEL, baptized 5 July, 1772; married Polly (or Sophia) Johnson.
- 7 HANNAH, baptized 13 Jan., 1776.<sup>7</sup>
- 8 THOMAS, baptized 7 June, 1778.

## 1174

IV. PELETIAH BIXBY (*Thomas, Joseph, Joseph*), born 9 Aug., 1731, at Hopkinton, Mass.; died there 17 Oct., 1822, aged 91 years;<sup>8</sup> married 1 Dec., 1763, ANN STONE<sup>4</sup> of Hopkinton, born 11 Feb.,

<sup>1</sup> Temple: History of Framingham.

<sup>2</sup> Mass. Archives, 95: 317.

<sup>3</sup> Worcester Deeds, 37: 445. The name of the place is doubtful.

<sup>4</sup> Hopkinton records.

<sup>5</sup> Perhaps Ellis Bigsbee, the cost of whose board and clothing to 21 Sept., 1804, was reimbursed by the State to the town of Scituate, was No. 1173-1. Ellis is an old form of Alice.

<sup>6</sup> Sally Bixby and William Wesson intend marriage, 15 April, 1788. (*Hopkinton records*.) In a record kept by Col. John Jones and his son of the same name, her marriage is noted as 9 Feb., 1789. She is given the prefix "Mrs."

<sup>7</sup> Nothing further is known of her. Equally unknown is the parentage of Hannah Bixby who married 25 Jan., 1787, at Westboro, Mass., Joseph Frost, and of Hannah Bigsby who married 28 Aug., 1795, at Grafton, Mass., John Davenport. The intention of marriage between Patty Bixby and Thomas Davenport, 18 Jan., 1794, is also found at Grafton. Westboro and Hopkinton are adjoining towns.

<sup>8</sup> Church Records; 18 Oct. in town record.



1739, died Nov., 1820, daughter of Dr. John Stone. They owned the covenant 22 Jan., 1769, and their four eldest children were baptized 18 Nov., 1770.<sup>1</sup>

*Children, born at Hopkinton:*<sup>2</sup>

- 1- 1 ABIJAH, born 14 June, 1764; married Lydia Chamberlain.
- 2- 2 PELETIAH, born 28 Dec., 1765; married Jane Surriage.
- 3 JOHN, born 14 Aug., 1767; died July, 1794, aged about 25 years,<sup>1</sup> unmarried.
- 4 ELIJAH, born 13 June, 1769; died at Hopkinton, in old age,<sup>3</sup> unmarried.
- 5- 5 LUTHER, born 4 April, baptized 21 June, 1772; married Susannah Wentworth.
- 6- 6 SIMPSON, born 10 March, baptized 28 Sept., 1774; married Elizabeth Tucker.
- 7 THOMAS, born 7 March, baptized 3 April, 1776.<sup>4</sup>
- 8 ANNA CUMMINS, born 22 July, baptized 28 Sept., 1777.
- 9 POLLY STONE, born 23 (Dec.) Nov., 1781; baptized 28 June, 1782; died 1852, aged 71 years, insane.<sup>3</sup>

PELETIAH BIXBY served with the Colonial troops in the French and Indian War.

When Barber published his *Historical Collections*, in 1839, he was informed that Peletiah Bixby had served in the old French War from 1754 to 1763, but the record of so extensive a service cannot now be found. His name is found on the roll of the company commanded by Capt. John Worthington, as centinel, enlisted 2 July, 1755, and serving until 18 November. This roll is endorsed "company westward from 20 June to 22 Nov., 1755." On the 26 April, 1756, he was a member of the train band commanded by Capt. John Jones, and was one of the eleven men from Hopkinton under Captain Jones who marched to Worcester agreeably to the order of 23 August. He enlisted there to the credit of Worcester, 2 Sept., and served until the 1 Dec., 1756, in the company commanded by Capt. Philip Richardson in the Crown Point Expedition of that year. From a roll dated 11 Oct., we find he was then stationed at Fort William Henry, and was a member of Col. Ruggles' regiment. He had been in the militia regiment commanded by Col. Buckminster prior to this enlistment. He also enlisted, with rank of sergeant, 11 June, 1760, and served until

<sup>1</sup> Church Records; 18 Oct. in town Records. The death of ' wife of Pelitiah Bixby ' in Nov., 1795, is noted in these records. There is no record of death of Ann (Stone) Bixby printed in the "Vital Records." See under Peletiah, son of Abner (1113).

<sup>2</sup> Town Records.

<sup>3</sup> Letter of S. V. Aldrich, 1898, who knew them.

<sup>4</sup> Possibly Thomas died 1827. See letter of Mrs. Theodore B. Nellis (11731.212).

3 Dec., in a company commanded by Capt. John Dunlap, which company, when discharged, were 120 miles from home.<sup>1</sup>

On the 7 Nov., 1761, he sold land in New Hopkinton, N. H., being 72 acres laid out to the right of his father Thomas Bixby. For this he received £72.<sup>2</sup>

On 19 June, 1770, Pelatiah Bixbee and Ann his wife, of Hopkinton, in his own right, and in right of Thomas Bixbee, Jr., and Lois his wife, and William Richards of Southborough and Sarah his wife, conveyed to Joseph Cummings of Topsfield all right and interest in one sixth part of the estate of their grandfather, Isaac Cummings of Ipswich.<sup>3</sup>

## 1175

IV. ISAAC BIXBY (*Thomas, Joseph, Joseph*), born 9 Aug., 1733, at Hopkinton, Mass.; died in the army, 13 March, 1778; married 10 Dec., 1761, at Hopkinton, MARY CROOKS<sup>4</sup> of Hopkinton.<sup>5</sup>

*Children, born at Hopkinton:*<sup>4</sup>

1 HANNAH, baptized 4 Dec., 1763, on which day her parents owned the covenant.<sup>6</sup>

2 THOMAS, baptized 9 Nov., 1766; probably died in the lifetime of his father.

3 MARY, baptized 1 Aug., 1773.

ISAAC BIXBY enlisted in the Continental service from the town of Hopkinton, for the term of three years, and was assigned to Col. Ward's regiment prior to 15 Aug., 1777, on which date he was a member of a company commanded by Capt. Nahum Ward, in Col. James Wesson's regiment. From a pay account of Capt. Watson's company, in Wesson's regiment, it appears he died 13 March, 1778.<sup>7</sup>

In April, 1756, he was a member of the train band in Hopkinton, commanded by Capt. John Jones.<sup>8</sup>

Phineas How was appointed guardian of Hannah and Mary, daughters of Isaac Bixby, 20 Oct., 1778.<sup>9</sup> In the settlement of Thomas Bixby's (117) estate, the heirs are stated to be Thomas and

<sup>1</sup> Mass. Archives, 94: 24, 125, 206, 491, 519; 95: 317; 98: 311.

<sup>2</sup> N. H. Deeds, 91: 254.

<sup>3</sup> Essex Deeds, 132: 147.

<sup>4</sup> Church records. Mary (Crooks) Bixby may have been daughter of John and Mary (Osborn) Crooks, born 15 June, 1742, at Hopkinton.

<sup>5</sup> Town records. Westboro records give the marriage of Solomon Maynard and Mary Bixby, 16 May, 1784; possibly this was the widow of Isaac Bixby.

<sup>6</sup> Hannah Bixby died in Boston, 13 Aug., 1846, *æet.* 83 years. She was one of the City poor. (*Boston Deaths*.) Possibly Hannah (1175-1).

<sup>7</sup> Mass. Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolution.

<sup>8</sup> Mass. Archives, 95: 317.

<sup>9</sup> Middlesex Probate, 59: 4.

Peletiah Bixby, and Phineas How. It is probable that How appeared in that capacity as guardian of the minor children of Isaac (1175) deceased. From these probate records it appears probable that Thomas (1175-2) died in his father's lifetime, as he did not participate in his grandfather's estate.

## 1193

IV. ELIZABETH BYXBEE (*Moses, Joseph, Joseph*), born 3 Dec., 1731, at Orleans, Mass.; married 12 Nov., 1754, at Darien,<sup>1</sup> Conn., JOSEPH WARING, son of Edmond Waring,<sup>2</sup> of Norwalk, Conn.

*Children, born at Norwalk:*<sup>2</sup>

- 1 JOSEPH WARING, born 15 June, 1755;<sup>3</sup> married 17 Oct., 1776, Anna Bates.<sup>4</sup>
- 2 JAMES WARING, born 2 Aug., 1757.
- 3 JESSE WARING, born 12 May, 1759.

## 1194

IV. PHOEBE BYXBEE (*Moses, Joseph, Joseph*), born 21 Dec., 1734, at Orleans, Mass.; died at Norwalk, Conn.; married 30 May, 1753, ESAIAS BOUTON,<sup>5</sup> born at Norwalk, 28 Nov., 1730, died there 27 May, 1821,<sup>6</sup> son of Jachin Bouton. Mr. and Mrs. Bouton were devoted members of the Episcopal church at Norwalk, of which Mr. Bouton was a vestryman, and a constant contributor to its support. The church was burned by the British in 1779, but was rebuilt the following year. The family lived at Belden's Neck.<sup>7</sup>

*Children, born at Norwalk:*

- 1 PHOEBE BOUTON, born 5 March, 1754; died 17 Jan., 1835;<sup>8</sup> married 17 Jan., 1771, at Norwalk, Eliakim Warren,<sup>9</sup> born 9 Feb., 1747, died 4 Sept., 1824, at Troy, N. Y., son of Eliakim and Ann (Reed) Warren.

<sup>1</sup> Darien church records. Both parties were "of Norwalk."

<sup>2</sup> Norwalk, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, in Land Records, 12: 22.

<sup>3</sup> Hall: Ancient Historical Records of Norwalk. See foot-note 1 under Moses Byxbee (119).

<sup>4</sup> Selleck: History of Norwalk, Conn.

<sup>5</sup> Hall: History of Norwalk.

<sup>6</sup> Selleck: History of Norwalk. Mr. Selleck says of this family: "the children of Esaias and Phoebe Bouton lived at the waterside and formed a numerous household. The father was a man of force and a large land owner. Acre joined acre, and his domain embraced from the head of the Wilson Cove of 1896, quite a distance toward the old road from 'Old Weel' to 'Middlesex' (South Norwalk and Darien). He was a mariner, known as Capt. Bouton, and amassed something of a property."

<sup>7</sup> Selleck: Historical Address at Centennial of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Norwalk, 1886.

<sup>8</sup> Selleck: History of Norwalk. The Bouton Genealogy states she died 5 Oct., 1827.

<sup>9</sup> Phoebe Bouton and Eliakim Warren, or as the name is often written Waring, were second cousins. Phoebe's aunt, Elizabeth Bouton, married Eliakim's grandfather Warren. Eliakim removed to Troy in 1798, and was senior warden of St. Paul's there from 1804 to his death, which is given in the Bouton Genealogy as occurring 24 May, 1838.

## Children:

1. Esaias Warren, born 16 Oct., 1771; married 11 Jan., 1797, at Middlesex, Lydia Scofield.
2. Hannah Warren, born 19 July, 1773; died Jan., 1775.
3. Hannah Warren, born 30 Aug., 1775; died the following year.
4. Nathan Warren, born 1 May, 1777; died 13 Aug., 1834, at Troy, N. Y.; married 24 April, 1808, Mary Bouton (1194-21)<sup>1</sup>. Child: *George Henry Warren*, born 18 Nov., 1823; married 29 April, 1851, Mary Caroline Phoenix, (2) Alice Whitten.
5. Stephen Warren, born 9 March, 1783; married 17 Aug., 1808, Martha Cornell.<sup>2</sup> Children: *Mary Mabbett Warren*, born 3 Oct., 1810; married John T. G. Knox. *Joseph Mabbett Warren*, born 28 Jan., 1813. *William Henry Warren*, born 14 Sept., 1815. *Phoebe Elizabeth Warren*, born 5 July, 1819. *Anna Chester Warren*, born 5 Sept., 1826; married Edward Ingersoll. *John Hobart Warren*, born 3 Sept., 1829.
6. Hannah Warren, born 9 July, 1793.
- 2 NATHAN BOUTON, born 30 Sept., 1756; died 24 May, 1838, at Troy, N. Y.; married Abigail Burlock, who died 5 Oct., 1827, at Troy, N. Y.  
Child, born at Norwalk:  
1. Mary Bouton, born 21 April, 1789; died 8 Feb., 1859, at Troy, N. Y.; married Nathan Warren (1194-14).<sup>1</sup>
- 3 LYDIA BOUTON, born 21 Jan., 1759; married 24 Nov., 1778, Stephen Kellogg, son of Epenetus and Jemima (Noyers?) Kellogg.<sup>3</sup>  
Children:  
1. Josiah Kellogg, born 20 May, 178-.
2. Lydia Kellogg, born 19 Nov., 1782.
3. Andrew Kellogg, born 29 Sept., 1784.
4. Esek Kellogg, born 21 Nov., 1786; married 24 March, 1811, a daughter of Jacob and Betsy (Jarvis) Osborn. Children: *Betsy Ann Kellogg*, born 16 Dec., 1821; died 20 Jan., 1822. *Margaret Emily Kellogg*, born 7 Nov., 1813; married William Barlow. *Harriet Kellogg*, born 21 June, 1817; married Horace Fitch. *Mary Frances Kellogg*, born 29 May, 1819; married William H. Wheeler. *Caroline Kellogg*, born 3 Aug., 1821; married Charles F. Osborn. *Adelia Mariah Kellogg*, born 28 Feb., 1824; married Calvin S. Wheeler. *Andrew Kellogg*, born 1 May, died 4 Sept., 1826. *Josiah Kellogg*, born 28 March, 1829; married Amanda Morey.
5. Mariah Kellogg, born 21 Oct., 1788.
6. Nathan Kellogg, born 26 Dec., 1790.
7. Jemima Kellogg, born 21 March, 1793.
8. Elizabeth Kellogg, born 19 Feb., 1795.
9. Stephen Kellogg, born 27 April, 1797.
- 4 STEPHEN BOUTON, born 4 July, 1760; married 26 May, 1792, at Norwalk, Hannah Camp, born 24 April, 1766, at Norwalk, daughter of Jonathan and Mary (Burwell) Camp.  
Children:

1. Hannah C. Bouton, born 8 March, 1793; married Frederick Bradley.
2. Stephen Bouton, born 18 March, 1797; married Harriette Bradley.  
Children: *Charles F. Bouton*, born 4 Aug., 1825; died in infancy. *George B. Bouton, M.D.*, born 27 April, 1828. *Grace B. Bouton*,

<sup>1</sup> Nathan Warren was a vestryman of St. Paul's Church, Troy. His widow in 1844 built and endowed the beautiful church of the Holy Cross in Troy, as a "house of prayer for all people without money and without price." She supported a free school for girls, which has been continued by her sons, and is now known as the Mary Warren Free Institute. (*Whitney Genealogy*.)

<sup>2</sup> Martha Cornell was born 5 July, 1791, daughter of Joseph S. and Mary (Thorne-Mabbett) Cornell.

<sup>3</sup> Selleck: History of Norwalk.



- born 14 July, 1835; married William C. Peck. *Harriette J. Bouton*, died young.
3. Josiah Bouton, born 17 March, 1802.
- 5 SAMUEL BOUTON, born 14 July, 1762; married 1 May, 1787, Eunice Smith, daughter of Noah and Eunice (Hoyt) Smith.
- Children:
1. Phebe Bouton, born 14 March, 1788; married Ira Ford.
  2. Abbe Bouton, born 24 July, 1790; married Walter Hoyt.
  3. Hannah Smith Bouton, born 4 Dec., 1792; married Aaron Gregory.
  4. Esaias Bouton, born 18 July, 1796.
  5. Mary Ann Bouton, died unmarried.
- 6 HANNAH BOUTON, born 16 May, 1767;<sup>1</sup> died 2 Dec., 1842, at Norwalk; married 19 May, 1792, at Norwalk, Jonathan Camp, born 20 Feb., 1768, died 31 July, 1852, son of Jonathan and Mary (Burwell) Camp.
- Children:
1. Sarah Camp, born 4 May, 1794; married William J. Street.
  2. Mary Camp, born 31 July, 1797.
  3. William Camp, born 27 June, 1799; died 15 Oct., 1802.
  4. Jonathan Camp, born 15 Sept., 1801; died 14 April, 1880; married 11 Jan., 1826, Mary Cannon Newkirk.<sup>2</sup> Children: *Stephen William Camp*, born 17 Nov., 1826; died 20 Nov., 1831. *Rebecca Gould Camp*, born 21 Aug., 1828. *Mary Esther Camp*, born 2 March, 1833. *Hannah Louisa Camp*, born 2 Jan., 1835. *Jonathan Camp*, born 22 Jan., 1838. *Albert Nash Camp*, born 8 Nov., 1839.
  5. Stephen W. Camp, born 8 Feb., 1807.
  6. Mary Esther Camp, born 14 April, 1808; died 5 April, 1831.
- 7 JOSIAH BOUTON, born 26 June, 1768.

## 1195

IV. JOHN BYXBEE (*Moses, Joseph, Joseph*), born 2 March, 1736-7, at Orleans, Mass.; died probably in 1810,<sup>3</sup> at Norwalk, Conn.; married 17 Feb., 1758, at Norwalk, ELIZABETH WARING,<sup>4</sup> who died 1 June, 1768, at Norwalk.<sup>5</sup>

*Children, born at Norwalk:*<sup>6</sup>

- 1- 1 JOSEPH, born 13 Aug., 1758; married Nancy Slawson.
- 2- 2 JOHN, born 26 April, 1761; married Rhoda Selleck.
- 3 ELIZABETH, born 7 May, 1763; died 15 Sept., 1782.
- 4- 4 HOPKINS, born 1 Feb., 1766; married Anna Raymond.

<sup>1</sup> Selleck: History of Norwalk, with which the original record agrees. The Bouton Genealogy, whence the rest of the record is taken, gives date of birth of Hannah as 1765.

<sup>2</sup> Mary C. Newkirk was born 15 Feb., 1808, and died 4 Dec., 1896. She was daughter of Garrit Harsin and Amelia (Cannon) Newkirk.

<sup>3</sup> John Byxbee to daughter-in-law Anna Byxbee for services she has rendered me nursing in sickness and health, land at Flax Hill, 8 May, 1810. (*Norwalk Land Records*, 21: 338.)

<sup>4</sup> Hall: History of Norwalk, Conn. The name is otherwise given Warren. See History of Norwalk by Selleck.

<sup>5</sup> Norwalk records, 18: 33.

<sup>6</sup> An order to distribute the estate of John Byxbee was granted 24 Dec., 1810, the heirs being John and Hopkins Byxbee and the heirs of Joseph Byxbee, deceased. (*Norwalk Probate Records*, 2: 187.) In 1793 (9 April), John Byxbee sold Tavern Island to Noah Smith. (*Norwalk Land Records*, 17: 319.) Tavern Island was afterward owned by Moses Byxbee, who sold it in 1853 to James H. Byxbee.



There was a JOHN BIGSBY, a private, in company commanded by Capt. Yates, Col. Enos Rich's regiment, in camp on the Hudson in the summer of 1778. The roll shows he arrived in camp 29 May, 1778, and was discharged 27 Aug., 1778.<sup>1</sup> This may be either John Byxbee (1195) or his son John. The latter is known to have served a short tour of duty at a later date. In May, 1778, John Byxbee was elected ensign to succeed Nathan Hoyt, in the company commanded by Capt. Eliakim Raymond, being the 4th "alarum" light company in the 9th regiment of militia.<sup>2</sup> John Byxbee bought Tavern Island in 1762 of James Lockwood, and he made many purchases of land at Flax Hill, Rhotan Brook and Elys Neck.

John Byxbe, elected surveyor of Highways, Norwalk, 6 Dec., 1790, may be No. 1195. The same month he was one of a committee to "view circumstances with respect to building a Grist Mill at five mile river."<sup>3</sup>

## 1196

IV. MOSES BYXBEE (*Moses, Joseph, Joseph*), born probably about 1740; died at Norwalk, Conn., prior to 1809. His birth date is unknown. He married 26 Jan., 1764, at Norwalk, ELIZABETH HAYT,<sup>4</sup> daughter of Joseph Hayt.

Capt. Roberts leased part of Tavern Island from Moses Byxbee.

An inventory of the estate of Moses Byxbee was filed 3 July, 1809. The estate included land at Old Swamp, salt meadow, an old house and barn, six acres of land at North Roton Hill, etc.<sup>5</sup>

It was voted at a town meeting in Norwalk, 6 Dec., 1779, that "small pox by inoculation may be carried on for two months at the houses of Moses Bixbe and Capt. Solomon Morehouse, under such regulations as the law prescribes."<sup>6</sup>

*Child:*

- 1 PHEBE, born 26 Aug., 1774, at Norwalk. Phebe "Bigsby" and Adam Knapp were married at Norwalk, 8 Aug., 1793. (*Stamford Vital Statistics*, 2:63.)

<sup>1</sup> Conn. Men in the Revolution.

<sup>2</sup> Conn. State Papers, Militia, 2d series, 2540 b.

<sup>3</sup> Norwalk Town Proceedings, II, 180, 186.

<sup>4</sup> Norwalk records, Vol. 18, p. 14. (The name may be Hoyt.) Also Hall: Ancient Historical Records of Norwalk, p. 250. Elizabeth wife of Moses Byxbee conveys to David Price an interest in estate of her father, Joseph "Hoyt," deceased, 18 March, 1797. (*Norwalk Deeds*, 20: 439.)

<sup>5</sup> Norwalk Probate, 2: 98.

<sup>6</sup> Town Proceedings, II, 163.

## 1231

IV. DEBORAH BIXBY (*Thomas, Daniel, Joseph*), born 9 Oct., 1704, at Andover, Mass.;<sup>1</sup> died aged 75 years, buried 6 May, 1779, at Chelmsford, Mass.;<sup>2</sup> married, 1724,<sup>3</sup> HENRY STEVENS. "Sergeant Henry Stevens" died 22 Oct., 1764, aged 64 years, at Chelmsford.<sup>2</sup>

*Children, born at Chelmsford:*<sup>4</sup>

- 1 HENRY STEVENS, born 10 Sept., 1724.
- 2 EPHRAIM STEVENS, born 20 April, 1728; died 27 Sept., 1755, at Chelmsford.<sup>2</sup>
- 3 DEBORAH STEVENS, born 21 Jan., 1728-9.
- 4 ELEAZER STEVENS, born 29 April, 1731; died 25 Feb., 1756, at Chelmsford.<sup>4</sup>
- 5 SARAH STEVENS, born 13 Sept., 1733.
- 6 DANIEL STEVENS, born 7 May, 1737.
- 7 JOHN STEVENS, born 5 Sept., 1739.
- 8 ESTHER STEVENS, born 14 Jan., 1743-4; died 12 Feb., 1808, at Chelmsford.<sup>2</sup>
- 9 JONATHAN STEVENS, born 5 Oct., 1745.

## 1232

IV. MORIAH BIXBY (? *Thomas, Daniel, Joseph*), born probably at Andover, Mass. Her name appears on the records as Moriah, the most common form, Meriah and Mariah. As Mariah Bixbie she was married 11 Sept., 1727, at North Andover, to JAMES BARKER,<sup>5</sup> born 24 Aug., 1700, died 9 Aug., 1740, son of Lt. Stephen and Mary (Abbott) Barker of Andover.<sup>6</sup> She married, second, 6 Nov., 1753, at Methuen, JOSEPH MORSS. Joseph Morss, "husband of Moriah," died 21 Dec., 1755.<sup>6</sup> She married, third, prior to 1757, JOHN STEVENS.

Moriah Barker, *alias* Morse, *alias* Stevens, presents an account 25 April, 1757, of the settlement of James Barker's estate.<sup>7</sup>

Moriah Bigsby and James Barker were received into South church, Andover, on profession of faith, 2 April, 1727, and dismissed 26 Oct., 1729, to form a church at Methuen.<sup>8</sup>

James Barker was a voter in Methuen in 1726, and one of the

<sup>1</sup> Andover records note the birth of "a child" to Thomas and Deborah Bixby, 9 Oct., 1704. This child is presumed to be Deborah, whose age at death would correspond.

<sup>2</sup> Chelmsford church records, quoted in Vital Records.

<sup>3</sup> Deborah Bidgby and Henry Stevens, intention of marriage at Chelmsford, 15 June, 1724.

<sup>4</sup> Chelmsford Vital Records.

<sup>5</sup> Records Unitarian church, No. Andover.

<sup>6</sup> Methuen Vital Records.

<sup>7</sup> Essex Probate, 334: 316.

<sup>8</sup> Manual South Church, Andover.

original members of the church formed there in 1729. Methuen records note the death of James Barker "husband of Moriah" on 9 Aug., 1740, in his fortieth year.

Administration on the estate of James Barker of Methuen was granted to his widow, Mariah Barker, who gave bond with Stephen and Ebenezer Barker, 19 Oct., 1741.<sup>1</sup> An inventory of the estate was taken 4 May, 1741. In 1757 the real estate, consisting of a dwelling house, barn, and 27 acres in Methuen, was set off to the eldest son of William Barker of Concord, cordwainer, who gave bonds to pay the other children, *viz*: Hannah Stevens, Phineas Barker, Mary Barker, and heirs of deceased brother James Barker. He also gave bonds to John Stevens of Andover and Moriah, his wife, formerly wife of James Barker, in consideration of their right in the real estate of James Barker deceased.<sup>1</sup> From an account on file it appears that Lydia Barker, living in 1754, was a sister of the said James Barker deceased.

*Children:*<sup>2</sup>

- 1 JAMES BARKER, born 10 July, 1728; died 27 Dec., 1729.
- 2 JAMES BARKER, born 25 March, 1730; died 26 Sept., 1750.
- 3 HANNAH BARKER, born 22 Feb., 1731-2; married 25 Sept., 1750, Daniel Stevens of Andover.<sup>2</sup>
- 4 WILLIAM BARKER, born 10 April, 1734; of Concord, cordwainer, 1757.
- 5 PHINEAS BARKER, baptized 1 Aug., 1736.
- 6 PHINEAS BARKER, born 2 Aug., 1737;<sup>3</sup> married 7 May, 1761, Sarah How.  
Children, born at Andover:  
1. Sarah Barker, born 26 March, 1762; died 25 Oct., 1764.  
2. James Barker, born 10 Sept., 1763; died 27 Oct., 1764.<sup>4</sup>
- 7 MARY BARKER, born 25 Feb., 1739; unmarried in 1761.

1233

IV. MARY BIXBY (*Thomas, Daniel, Joseph*), born March, 1710, at Andover, Mass.; probably died at Dunstable, Mass., or in some neighboring town; married 21 Feb., 1733-4, at Billerica, Mass.,<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Essex Probate.

<sup>2</sup> Methuen Vital Records.

<sup>3</sup> Methuen Vital Records give us both Phineases, but the suspicion arises that the date in either the baptismal or birth record has been misread or miscopied.

<sup>4</sup> Abbott Genealogy (1906), p. 22.

<sup>5</sup> Billerica Vital Records. Joseph Frost was of Tewksbury. He left a will dated 10 Aug., 1757; proved 29 Aug., 1757. To his wife Mary he gave one half his lands, buildings, and personal estate, the other half of his estate was set aside to provide for his mother, Deborah Frost, who was to have the right to reside in the eastern end of his dwelling house. There is no mention of children. Obadiah Johnson of Andover was made executor. The mention of Deborah Frost as his mother identifies him as half brother of Experience Frost who married Joseph

JOSEPH FROST, JR., born 26 Nov., 1709, at Billerica, died 12 Aug., 1757, of fever, at Tewksbury, Mass.,<sup>1</sup> son of Thomas and Deborah Frost. She married, second, 8 June, 1758, at Tewksbury, JOSEPH BLANCHARD.<sup>1</sup>

*Children:*<sup>2</sup>

- 1 JAMES FROST, born 6 Aug., 1735; died 16 Nov., 1738, at Tewksbury.<sup>2</sup> He is probably that James Frost, son of Thomas, whose birth appears on Andover records as of 10 Aug., 1735.
- 2 JOSEPH FROST, born 25 March, 1737; died 6 Feb., 1738-9, at Tewksbury.<sup>2</sup>
- 3 MARY FROST, born 3 April, 1740; died 26 Oct., 1746, at Tewksbury.<sup>2</sup>
- 4 JOSEPH FROST, born 19 Aug., 1744; died 23 Aug., 1749, at Tewksbury.<sup>2</sup>
- 5 JOSEPH FROST, born 27 Sept., 1750; died young, probably 19 or 26 Oct., 1756.<sup>2</sup>
- 6 MARY FROST, born 10 June, 1753; died 3 Aug., 1757, at Tewksbury.<sup>2</sup>

1235

IV. SARAH BIXBY<sup>3</sup> (*Thomas, Daniel, Joseph*), born probably at Chelmsford, Mass.; died 2 March, 1759, at Tewksbury, Mass.;<sup>4</sup> married 8 May, 1738, at Tewksbury,<sup>2</sup> SAMUEL HASELTINE, JR., who died 21 Feb., 1788, in his 77th year.<sup>1</sup> He was a prosperous farmer, but no settlement of his estate has been found.<sup>5</sup> His wife Sarah released rights of dower in land sold by her husband, Aug., 1758.<sup>6</sup>

*Children,<sup>7</sup> born at Tewksbury:*

- 1 JOHN HASELTINE, born 10 Feb., 1738-9; died 3 Nov., 1749, at Tewksbury.<sup>7</sup>
- 2 SARAH HASELTINE, born 1 Nov., 1740.
- 3 JAMES HASELTINE, born 21 Nov., 1743; died 7 Nov., 1749, at Tewksbury.<sup>7</sup>
- 4 SAMUEL HASELTINE, born 24 March, 1745.<sup>8</sup>
- 5 ELIJAH HASELTINE, born 1 May, 1747, probably married Elizabeth Danforth.<sup>9</sup>

Bixby (129). In spite of his being styled junior on the record, he was senior to Joseph Frost of Tewksbury (son of Joseph Frost of Billerica), who married 25 Oct., 1731, Abigail Kittridge and died 29 or 30 Jan., 1750-1, at Tewksbury. On the record he is styled Jr. His widow Abigail married Ebenezer Fisk in 1755. See Hazen's History of Billerica and Tewksbury Vital Records.

<sup>1</sup> Tewksbury church records, quoted in Vital Records. <sup>2</sup> Tewksbury Vital Records.

<sup>3</sup> She is assumed to have been a daughter of Thomas (123), although no record of her birth has been discovered. She was probably born about 1716-20.

<sup>4</sup> Styled wife of Samuel Haseltine, Jr., on church records.

<sup>5</sup> Tewksbury Vital Records give death of Samuel Haseltine, of old age, 27 May, 1760, and the "wife of Samuel Haseltine, Sr.," 7 Sept., 1738. Samuel, Jr., was probably son of Samuel and Emma (Kent) Haseltine. See Haselton Genealogy by Lapham (1892), where Samuel Haseltine, Jr., is mentioned, without family, and not identified.

<sup>6</sup> Middlesex Deeds, 56: 230.

<sup>7</sup> Tewksbury Vital Records.

<sup>8</sup> Samuel Hazeltine and Mary Jefts, of Billerica, intend marriage, 6 April, 1771. (*Tewksbury Vital Records*.)

<sup>9</sup> The marriage of Elijah Hazeltine and Elizabeth Danforth appears in Tewksbury Vital Records as 2 May, 1776. Andover Vital Records give, "Lucy daughter of Elijah and Elizabeth Hazeltine born 13 April, 1775."



- 6 EMMY HASELTINE, born 4 March, 1749, perhaps married Ephraim Cory.<sup>1</sup>
- 7 JOHN HASELTINE, born 12 Jan., 1752.
- 8 OLIVE HASELTINE, born 30 June, 1754.
- 9 A child, still-born, 19 April, 1756.
- 10 JAMES HASELTINE, born 4 Oct., 1757, perhaps married Hannah Griffin, 10 April, 1783, at Tewksbury.<sup>2</sup>

## 1236

IV. THOMAS BIXBY (*Thomas, Daniel, Joseph*), born 17 May, 1722, at Chelmsford, Mass.; died in 1760, at Litchfield, N. H.; married (Int. at Chelmsford, 7 May, 1743)<sup>3</sup> PHEBE SPAULDING,<sup>3</sup> born 30 Aug., 1721, at Chelmsford, died 1766 at Litchfield, daughter of Edward and Lydia (Fletcher) Spaulding.<sup>4</sup> She appears as administratrix of her husband's estate, from 17 Oct., 1761, to 27 May, 1763. On 10 Dec., 1762, she sold land in Amherst to James Underwood, which Thomas had purchased in 1753 of Peletiah Russel.<sup>5</sup> Underwood reconveyed the same land, 12 Sept., 1763, to Daniel and Edward Bixby, minors, both of Litchfield.

The "widow" Phebe Bixby was taxed from 1764 to 1766 inclusive for property owned by the late "Capt." Thomas Bixby. In 1767, the same estate is taxed to Daniel Bixby, and the name of Phebe Bixby disappears from the records.<sup>6</sup>

*Children, the two eldest born at Chelmsford, the others at Litchfield:*

- 1- 1 EDWARD, born 8 Sept., 1744; married Lucy Barnes.
- 2- 2 DANIEL, born 31 Aug., 1746; married Lydia Parker.

<sup>1</sup> Emmy Hazeltine and Ephraim Cory of Andover, married 22 Oct., 1772. (*Tewksbury Vital Records*.) Ephraim Cory and Anna Hazeltine of Tewksbury were published at Andover, Mass., 28 Aug., 1772. (*Andover Vital Records*.) Hannah daughter of Ephraim Cory baptized 20 May, 1787. (*Ibid.*) <sup>2</sup> Tewksbury Vital Records. <sup>3</sup> Chelmsford Vital Records.

<sup>4</sup> Middlesex Deeds, 55:422. Thomas Bixby and wife Phebe, of Litchfield, join with Josiah Fletcher, yeoman, Mary Fletcher, widow, Esther Pierce, widow, Rebecca Parker, widow, Joseph Moors, yeoman, and wife Esther, Isaiah Spaulding, yeoman, Gideon Spaulding, yeoman, Henry Richardson, and wife Priscilla, Robert Bates and wife Lydia, William Foster, Stephen Fletcher, William Fletcher, William Proctor and wife Lucy, and Thankful Fletcher, spinster, all of Chelmsford, Joseph Hildreth, 3d, of Westford, Cotton Proctor and wife Tabitha of Acton, in selling the homestead of Ezekiel Fletcher, comprising eighty acres in Dunstable. In this deed Thomas Bixby is styled "of Litchfield, housewright." Ezekiel Fletcher was son of William and Sarah (Richardson) Fletcher, and uncle of Phebe Bixby, Gideon and Isaiah Spaulding, Lydia Bates, and Priscilla Richardson, all of whom, children of Lydia Spaulding, join in the deed with brothers and other heirs of Ezekiel Fletcher, proving the relationship. In the Fletcher Genealogy, Ezekiel's sister Lydia is wrongly given as identical with that Lydia Fletcher who married in 1711 at Charlestown, Mass., Peletiah Adams, who died in 1746, and whose widow appears to have died Nov., 1766, aged 78 years, at Chelmsford. Lydia, wife of Edward Spaulding, died 27 May, 1736.

<sup>5</sup> New Hampshire Deeds.

<sup>6</sup> Letter of Isaac N. McQuesten (12364.24-4) who also states that a monument in the cemetery was erected to "Thomas Bixby, son of Capt. Thomas and Phebe Bixby, died 4 Jan., 1775, aged 16 years, 10 months, 10 days." If this is a correct transcription of the inscription on the stone there was a child born 24 Feb., 1758, bearing the same name as his elder brother.



- 3- 3 ASA, born 29 Jan., 1748-9; married Elizabeth Dane.  
 4- 4 THOMAS, born 5 July, 1752; married Rebecca Holmes.  
     5 SARAH, born 8 Oct., 1754; married Benjamin Butterfield.  
 6- 6 WILLIAM, born 19 April, 1757; married Sarah Thompson; (2) Elizabeth (Chase) Nahor.

THOMAS BIXBY moved from Chelmsford to Litchfield, N. H., probably in 1748. On the 15 November of that year he joins with Benjamin Baxter in selling for £218 a double dwelling house, with land adjoining, in Chelmsford, to Zechariah Richardson. In this deed he is styled of Chelmsford, housewright.<sup>1</sup> The birth of his child Asa is recorded at Litchfield in the following January. As of Litchfield, he appears selling land in Souhegan West to Nathan Kendall of Litchfield, 5 Feb., 1750. In 1753 he bought lands in Souhegan West. Three of his sons settled in what is now Francestown, N. H.

## 1237

IV. DANIEL BIGSBY (?*Thomas, Daniel, Joseph*), born about 1723, undoubtedly in New England, it is said in Connecticut,<sup>2</sup> but probably in Andover or Chelmsford, Mass.; died 19 Feb., 1788, at Birch Island, Guysborough, Nova Scotia, aged 65 years;<sup>3</sup> married CATHERINE, who survived him.

*Children:*

- 1- 1 JOHN, born probably about 1764, certainly prior to 1768; married Rachel Critchard or Critchett.  
 2- 2 CATHERINE, born 1778, baptized 7 May, 1791,<sup>3</sup> "aged 13 years"; married Benjamin Godfrey.  
 3- 3 SARAH, born 1781; baptized 7 May, 1791,<sup>3</sup> "aged ten years"; married Daniel Gerry.

DANIEL BIGSBY settled at or near Guysborough, Nova Scotia. Family tradition asserts that he came from Connecticut, and that he

<sup>1</sup> Middlesex Deeds, 74: 612.

<sup>2</sup> The tradition that Daniel Bigsby came from Connecticut is persistent, but the statement that he was born in Connecticut would appear to have originated in late years. It is quite possible that he may have lived in that colony prior to his settlement in Nova Scotia. His granddaughter, Mrs. Martha (Bixby) Gould (12371.7), born in 1817, told her son Daniel, who is now living at Guysborough, that Daniel Bigsby "came from Connecticut." None of the Bixby emigrants from Massachusetts to Connecticut could have been an ancestor of Daniel (1237). If he was born in 1723, he was probably of the fourth generation, and may well have been a child of Thomas (123), concerning whose family there is not a complete record. The story of Connecticut origin may have arisen from the fact that there were many Connecticut people among the first English settlers of the parts of Nova Scotia adjacent to Guysborough. Possibly his wife was a Connecticut woman.

<sup>3</sup> Christ Church, Guysborough, records. The church register begins with July, 1787. There are no town records of births, marriages, or deaths until the establishment of a registry within a few years.

was born there. The Rev. A. W. H. Eaton, a careful student of Nova Scotia local history and genealogy, made an exhaustive examination of available records at Halifax and Guysborough to determine when and how Daniel Bigsby came to Nova Scotia, whence he came, and who composed his family. The following abstracts from Dr. Eaton's report give the essential facts discovered by him.

"Daniel Bigsby is believed to have lived first at Intervale, near Guysboroughtown, then in the town. In the harbour of Guysborough, a short distance from the town, is a small island, which was formerly called Birch Island, and on this island Daniel Bixby lost his life. He had gone to the island to shoot ducks and his boat drifting away, he was frozen to death. On the first page of the burial register of Christ Church is the record, no date of burial however being given, February 19, 1788, Daniel Bigsby frozen to death on Birch Island, age 65 years. The name of his wife is not remembered by descendants in Guysborough. She survived her husband and lived and died with her son John. Both she and her husband are probably buried in the Anglican Churchyard, but if they ever had tombstones these are covered up. She is said to have been a small woman, and to have been pretty old when she died. 'Look out of the window and see if the angels are not coming for me' she is remembered as saying to one of her grandchildren, sometimes, when the child would visit her room. The date of her death is not known. The register of deeds and the probate register, the latter for a long period unindexed, have been carefully searched for mention of Daniel Bigsby's name, but without avail. It is probable therefore that he owned little if any property. In Guysboroughtown live two of his great-grandchildren, Mrs. Luther Stearns and Mr. Daniel Gould. The latter is a man of intelligence and clear memory. That his great-grandfather came from Connecticut he is quite certain, his grandparents having handed this fact down to his mother and so to himself. From Mr. Gould, who has lived chiefly in Guysborough, the minute details given above concerning Daniel Bigsby and his wife have been directly obtained. By Mr. Gould, also, the fact has been substantiated that Daniel Bigsby had at least one son, John, and two daughters, Catherine and Sarah, Catherine being married to Benjamin Godfrey, Sarah being married to Daniel Gerry.

"On the register of Christ Church parish we find that 'Richard'

Bigsby and his wife Catherine had daughters baptized as follows: May 7, 1791, Catherine, aged 13, Sarah aged 10 years. We are constrained to believe that the name Richard on the parish register should have been Daniel. As Daniel Bigsby had been three years and a little more dead it is not very strange for the clergyman recording the baptism to have made a mistake in his name. 'No other Bigsby but Daniel,' says Mr. Daniel Gould, 'ever came to Guysborough.'"

The earliest deed of record at Guysborough, to or from a Bigsby, dated 19 Nov., 1788, was registered 2 Oct., 1789, and is from Mansfield Munson<sup>1</sup> to Catherine Bigsby "of Boylston"<sup>2</sup> and conveys two acres of land at Manchester, part of lot 5, the consideration being £3.

Guysborough was granted to Nathan Hubbel and 278 others, and at the evacuation of New York, these grantees settled at Harbour Mouton in Queens County under the superintendence of Col. Molleson. Because of the sufferings endured the first winter, two hundred of the settlers removed to Chedabucto Bay, in the spring of 1784, where they found part of the Duke of Cumberland's regiment. A farm and town lot was assigned to each settler.<sup>3</sup>

Dr. Eaton made a careful search in the Crown Land Office at Halifax, but failed to find the name of Daniel Bigsby. The greater number of grants in Guysborough were given in 1785, or at least bear that date. There was a grant to Benjamin Critchett and many associates, 7 Aug., 1790, of land further up the strait than Guysborough town or the Intervale.

The strait of Canso was a favorite resort of New England fishermen, and it is not improbable that Daniel Bigsby was a fisherman or sailor and on a visit to Canso determined to remain there.

## 1262

IV. ABIGAIL BIXBY (*David, Daniel, Joseph*), born 13 April, 1715, at Westford, Mass.; married 11 Sept., 1733, ZACHARIAH SARTLE of Groton, Mass., who died 5 March, 1752, probably the son of Zachariah and Mary Sartle (Sawtell) of Groton, born 24 April, 1712. Widow Abigail Sawtell and Joshua Nevers were married at Groton, 22 Jan., 1756.

<sup>1</sup> Munson is a Connecticut name.

<sup>2</sup> Probably about five miles from Guysborough, toward Intervale.

<sup>3</sup> Haliburton: *History of Nova Scotia*, Vol. 2, pp. 83-88.

*Children, probably born at Groton:*<sup>1</sup>

- 1 ZACHARIAH SARTLE, born 25 Nov., 1734; died 22 Feb., 1752.
- 2 JOSEPH SARTLE, born 28 July, 1738; died 1822;<sup>1</sup> married Lydia Jenkins (1263-2).
- 3 ASA SARTLE, born 11 July, 1740.
- 4 JOEL SARTLE, born 17 May, 1742; died 15 Dec., 1752.
- 5 LOT SARTLE, born 22 April, 1744; died 22 Oct., 1752.
- 6 ABIGAIL SARTLE, born 2 Feb., 1745; died 12 Oct., 1752.
- 7 LYDIA SARTLE, born 17 May, 1749; died 8 Dec., 1752.
- 8 MARCY SARTLE, born 18 Oct., 1750.
- 9 LUCY SARTLE, born 1 Jan., 1753.

## 1263

IV. LYDIA BIXBY (*David, Daniel, Joseph*), born 22 Oct., 1717, at Westford, Mass.; married 21 Dec., 1738,<sup>2</sup> OBADIAH JENKINS of Wilmington, Mass., son of Joel and Mary (Chadwick) Jenkins and grandson of Obadiah Jenkins (son of Joel Jenkins, one of the early settlers of Malden<sup>3</sup>). They lived in Wilmington until about 1754, when they removed to Groton, Mass., where Obadiah Jenkins was living in 1773.

*Children, born at Wilmington, except the three youngest, born at Groton:*<sup>4</sup>

- 1 OBADIAH JENKINS, born 19 May, 1739; died young.
  - 2 LYDIA JENKINS, born 6 Sept., 1741; died 5 July, 1829;<sup>5</sup> married 29 May, 1760, at Groton, Joseph Sawtell,<sup>6</sup> probably born 28 July, 1738, died March, 1822, aged eighty four years, son of Hezekiah and Abigail (Bixby) Sawtell (12622).
- Children:
1. Zachariah Sawtell, born 26 Feb., 1761.
  2. Joseph Sawtell, born 8 May, 1764.
  3. Jesse Sawtell, born 29 Feb., 1767.
  4. Lydia Sawtell, born 18 May, 1773.
  5. Lot Sawtell, born 12 May, 1776.
  6. Lucy Sawtell, born 24 Oct., 1777.
- 3 ELIZABETH JENKINS, born 28 March, 1744.

<sup>1</sup> Butler: History of Groton, where the death of Zachariah is given as of 6 June, 1757.

<sup>2</sup> Information of Town Clerk of Westford.

<sup>3</sup> Obadiah Jenkins of Malden left a will dated 3 Feb., 1762, probated 8 Feb., 1762. His estate was left to his wife, Mary, during her life, and after her death to sister Sarah Taylor, Lydia Upham, "kinsman Obediah Jenkins of Groton," Mr. Nathaniel Jenkins, Jr., school-teacher in Malden, and Obediah his son. (*Middlesex Probate*, 12553.) Probably Obediah, the testator, was uncle to Obediah of Groton. He died at Malden, 4 Feb., 1762, aged seventy-two years. Obadiah Jenkins, husband of Lydia Bixby, was thus uncle of Joshua Jones who married Hannah Bixby (17514). For further information regarding the Jenkins family see Andover Townsman of 12 Oct., 1900, article by Miss Charlotte Abbott, Corey's History of Malden, and Malden Births, Marriages and Deaths. The family was early found in Lynn and Reading.

<sup>4</sup> 'Wilmington' and Groton records.

<sup>5</sup> Butler: History of Groton.

<sup>6</sup> Groton Church records.



- 4 SUSANNA JENKINS, born 20 Aug., 1746; probably married James Adams of Groton, 6 Jan., 1767.<sup>1</sup>
- 5 MARY JENKINS, born 15 July, 1749.
- 6 OBADIAH JENKINS,<sup>2</sup> born 14 May, 1751; married 28 Jan., 1773, at Groton, Lucy Parker; probably of Stoddard, N. H., in 1784. He was living in 1800, as was also Obadiah Jenkins, Jr.
- 7 JONATHAN JENKINS, born 5 July, 1753; probably of Stoddard, N. H.; he was living in 1800.
- 8 JOEL JENKINS,<sup>2</sup> born 12 Sept., 1756.
- 9 DAVID JENKINS,<sup>2</sup> born 4 March, 1758; probably of Stoddard, in 1784; living 1800.
- 10 LEMUEL JENKINS, born 1 Aug., 1763; taxed 1784 (but did not pay) in Stoddard.

## 1265

IV. JOSEPH BIXBY (*David, Daniel, Joseph*), born 2 May, 1721, at Westford, Mass.; probably died in 1763; married 12 May, 1748, at Marblehead, Mass., SARAH ROADS,<sup>3</sup> who died 24 March, 1818, aged 90 years,<sup>4</sup> at the poor house. They lived in Marblehead. Administration on the estate of Joseph Bixby was granted to his widow, 24 Nov., 1763.<sup>5</sup>

*Children, born at Marblehead:*<sup>3</sup>

- 1 MARY, baptized 15 Sept., 1751; married 17 Sept., 1772, Richard Necks of Marblehead.<sup>3</sup>
- 2 RUTH, baptized 1 June, 1755; married 16 May, 1773, Samuel Legrow of Marblehead.<sup>3</sup>
- 3 LYDIA, baptized 2 July, 1758.<sup>6</sup>
- 4 ABIGAIL, baptized 28 Sept., 1760.

## 1266

IV. THANKFUL BIXBY (*David, Daniel, Joseph*), born 15 Jan., 1724-5, at Westford, Mass.; married there 12 Oct., 1748,<sup>7</sup> JONATHAN

<sup>1</sup> Groton records.

<sup>2</sup> Obadiah, Jonathan and David Jenkins were members of Capt. Farwell's Groton company, 19 April, 1775. Gould in History of Stoddard, prints many Jenkins marriages.

<sup>3</sup> Marblehead Vital Records.

<sup>4</sup> Death reported as Bixby, but there is of record an intention of marriage of Sarah Bixby with George Mehoney at Marblehead, 19 Oct., 1773.

<sup>5</sup> Essex Probate.

<sup>6</sup> The will of Deacon Benjamin Church of Boston, made in 1781, was witnessed by Lydia Bixby. John Towle published his intention of marriage with Lydia Bixby, 29 March, 1782. (*Boston Marriages*.) Lydia Bixby of Boston was published at Manchester, 23 Dec., 1785, to William Kimball, and they were married in Boston, 9 Feb., 1786. It is probable that these items relate to one person, and that Lydia (1265-3) is intended. William Kimball may be that William born 3 Feb., 1764, son of Capt. Benjamin and Joanna (Lee) Kimball of Manchester, who served in his father's company, 5 May, 1775, to 31 Dec., 1776, and afterward reenlisted and served two years longer. When discharged he enlisted, in 1779, on the frigate Boston, Capt. Samuel Tucker, and was captured by the enemy, 12 May, 1780. He is known to have reached home. See Kimball Genealogy, p. 212.

<sup>7</sup> Westford records.



SEARLS, born 5 Sept., 1720, at Westford, died 1786 at Hudson, N. H., son of Samuel and Sarah (Perham) Searls of Westford.

*Children:*<sup>1</sup>

- 1 THANKFUL SEARLS, born 23 May, 1750.
- 2 JONATHAN SEARLS, born 11 April, 1752.
- 3 THOMAS SEARLS, born 28 Aug., 1754.
- 4 JACOB SEARLS, born 15 April, 1757.
- 5 ELIHU SEARLS, born 28 Sept., 1759.
- 6 ELNATHAN SEARLS, born 26 March, 1763.
- 7 LYDIA SEARLS, born 1 July, 1765.

### 1267

IV. JACOB BIXBY (*David, Daniel, Joseph*), born 12 Aug., 1728, at Westford, Mass.; died prior to 1764;<sup>2</sup> married 6 April, 1749, at Westford,<sup>3</sup> EUNICE HEALD, daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Butterfield)<sup>4</sup> Heald, who was appointed guardian of her son Ephraim, 24 April, 1770. She died prior to 1780, unless she was the Eunice Bixby, described as spinster, in deeds of that date.<sup>5</sup>

*Children, born at Westford:*

- 1- 1 DAVID, born 11 Aug., 1749; married Alice Hayward.
- 2- 2 LEVI, born 15 Nov., 1750; married Nancy.
- 3- 3 EPHRAIM, born 4 Jan., 1753; married Martha Barker.
- 4- 4 JACOB, born 23 July, 1754; married Martha Hardy.
- 5 EUNICE, unmarried in 1781, when, described as spinster, she conveys land to Ephraim, Levi and Jacob.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Stearns: Thirty Dunstable Families.

<sup>2</sup> David Bixby by will dated 1764 bequeathed to children of deceased son Jacob Bixby five shillings, probably intending a shilling to each child. Jacob had had his portion of his father's estate. (*Middlesex Probate*.)

<sup>3</sup> Hodgman: History of Westford, where, however, David Bixby (1268) instead of David Bixby (12671) is given as the husband of Alice Hayward and as removing to Ludlow, Vt. On Dunstable records she is described as Howard. The two eldest sons removed to Ludlow, the two youngest to Reading, Vt.

<sup>4</sup> Hodgman: History of Westford. Among the children of Thomas and Sarah Heald was Ephraim, born 1729. He is undoubtedly the Ephraim "Hale" of Westford, mentioned in the Revolutionary Rolls. Polly (Bixby) Jones, a granddaughter of Jacob Bixby (1267), declared that while her father was in the war, his family lived with her grandfather "Hale," and names her mother, "Martha Hardy." The "grandfather Hale" was, therefore, her great grandfather, Thomas Heald.

<sup>5</sup> Eunice Bixby of Westford, spinster, in 1781, for 800 pounds sold fifty five acres land with buildings thereon to Ephraim Bixby of Westford, blacksmith. The next year she sold five acres near the above described land to Levi and Jacob Bixby, the grantees being described as of Wilton. (*Middlesex Deeds*, 82: 297; 88: 477.) The style spinster was not at that time confined to unmarried women. The grantor is, however, thought to have been a daughter of Jacob, not his widow.

## 1269

IV. ASA BIXBY (*David, Daniel, Joseph*), born 24 Feb., 1734-5, at Westford, Mass.; died 24 Feb., 1809; married (intention of marriage 17 April, 1756) SUSANNA HOWARD. He married, second, 26 Oct., 1780, ELIZABETH WILKINSON, widow,<sup>1</sup> who was born 1742 and died 26 June, 1818.<sup>2</sup> After the death of his sister-in-law, Lydia, widow of William Bixby, Asa became administrator on the latter's estate and was appointed guardian of his nephew Theophilus.

Either Asa (1269) or his son Asa (12692) was a soldier in the Revolution.<sup>3</sup>

*Children, born at Westford:*<sup>1</sup>

- 1- 1 SUSANNA, born 27 April, 1757; married Ephraim Dutton.
- 2- 2 ASA, born 15 March, 1761; married Elizabeth Wilkinson; (2) Lucy Gilson.
- 3- 3 THOMAS, born 21 Oct., 1762; married Lydia Searles; (2) Mrs. Sargent.
- 4- 4 ABIGAIL BETHIA, born 2 July, 1764; married Daniel Peck.
- 5- 5 JOSEPH, born 19 May, 1766; married Polly Boyden.

## 126J

IV. WILLIAM BIXBY (*David, Daniel, Joseph*), born 19 July, 1737, at Westford, Mass.; died 1781, probably at Westford; married, probably in 1761, MARY ———. He married, second, 2 Sept.,<sup>4</sup> 1776, LYDIA FARRINGTON, who died 26 March, 1785.<sup>5</sup> She married, second, in 1783, Nathaniel Bowen of Westford. An inventory of her estate was presented to the probate court pursuant to a warrant dated 3 May, 1785. Asa Bixby (1269) was administrator. The inventory filed by him showed that she possessed personalty amounting to only £16-12-5, and real estate of the value of £67.<sup>6</sup>

*Children:*

- 1 FARWELL.<sup>7</sup> His existence is known only from a statement in a letter of Luther Bixby's (126J6.22). Probably died in the lifetime of his parents.

<sup>1</sup> Westford records.

<sup>2</sup> Hodgman: History of Westford.

<sup>3</sup> Asa Bixby, a private in company commanded by Capt. Joshua Parker, Col. Robinson's regiment, served five months in Rhode Island, having enlisted 1 Aug., 1777. He was credited with service until 1 Jan., 1778, the date of making up the roll. Also, Asa Bixby, a private in the company commanded by Capt. Isaac Wood, Col. Jonathan Reed's regiment of guards at Cambridge, enlisted 1 April, 1778, for three months. It is not unlikely that both father and son are represented by this record, the older man in the Rhode Island campaign; the younger man in the tour of duty as a guard at Cambridge.

<sup>4</sup> According to Hodgman: History of Westford, the intention of marriage was filed 5 Sept., 1776.

<sup>5</sup> Westford records and Middlesex Probate.

<sup>6</sup> Middlesex Probate, 68: 3.

<sup>7</sup> His name suggests that his mother may have been a Farwell, perhaps of the Groton family of that name.

- 2 WILLIAM, born 15 Dec., 1762, at Westford;<sup>1</sup> died prior to Sept., 1787. Probably that William who enlisted to reenforce the Continental Army, under the resolve of 30 June, 1781, for three months, and served in Capt. Daniel Bowker's company in Colonel Webb's regiment.<sup>2</sup> William Bigsby, a member of the Shaker community at Watervliet, N. Y., died 25 Jan., 1784, aged 22 years. (*Gravestone.*)
- 3 JOHN, born 4 June, 1767, at Westford;<sup>1</sup> died probably at Reading, Vt., later than 1796. His uncle Asa Bixby was appointed his guardian, 19 Sept., 1781,<sup>3</sup> and in Sept., 1787, represented that he had deceased. In 1790 he appears to have been of Reading, and married. A John Bixby bought land there in 1791, 1792, 1796, 1803, 1804, 1808.<sup>4</sup>
- 4- 4 LYDIA, born about 1780; married Calvin Farnsworth.
- 5 A child, called "youngest child"; died in summer of 1785.<sup>5</sup>
- 6- 6 THEOPHILUS, born 1 July, 1781, at Westford;<sup>1</sup> married Anna Fisk.

WILLIAM BIXBY was a tailor. This much, and the fact that he left a small estate, involved in debt, is learned from the settlement of his estate by his brother Asa Bixby. The widow was granted administration, 7 May, 1781, and administration de bonis non was granted to Asa Bixby, 19 May, 1785.<sup>3</sup>

A William Bixby was cautioned by Littleton, 13 May, 1780, probably William (126J).<sup>5</sup>

On the 20 Sept., 1787, Asa Bixby, acting as administrator of William's estate, petitioned the Supreme Court for leave to sell the real estate of the deceased, which consisted of about eight acres of land, mostly covered with scrub oak, and a very small old house and barn, the whole worth not more than £60. According to the petition of the administrator there were then living two children only, both under eight years of age, who were living with him, their "nearest relative."<sup>6</sup> This very nearly agrees with the information secured in 1885 by Luther Bixby, a grandson of Theophilus Bixby, whose statements, of date a few months apart, are worthy of preservation in this place.

The first is in a letter dated 3 June, 1885, addressed to Mr. N. W. Bixby: "my grandfather and father are both dead. I know nothing beyond my grandfather. He came with his mother from England when four years of age. She died soon after, leaving him alone; all he knew was he was told he had three half-brothers in this country, but he knew not their names. He was brought

<sup>1</sup> Westford town records.

<sup>2</sup> Mass. Soldiers in the Revolution.

<sup>3</sup> Middlesex Probate.

<sup>4</sup> Reading, Vt., land records, 3: 302; 4: 238; 7: 145, 348, 231; 8: 23.

<sup>5</sup> Middlesex Sessions.

<sup>6</sup> Suffolk files, 149,811.

up in Massachusetts." The later statements are of date of September, 1885, and August, 1886. He writes: "I have been looking up the genealogy of my folks and can only find this much. Theophilus Bixby was my grandfather. He had a half-brother by the name of John Bixby who lived in Reading, Vt. Lydia Bixby, an own sister of Theophilus, married John Farnsworth who moved to Virginia and had ten sons. William Bixby, father of Theophilus, died at Westford about 1785. He fell from a horse and was killed. Theophilus Bixby died in 1862, at eighty years of age, in Waterbury, Vt."

"My grandfather's half-brother, John Bixby, was fifteen years older than my grandfather and died without children; he lived at Reading, Vt. Grandfather had another half-brother, by the name of Farwell. Jonathan and Joel Bixby, uncle and nephew, who went to Vermont in 1826, were no connection of ours that we know of."<sup>1</sup> In another letter he states that William Bixby was lame, and was buried in Westford.

The probate records, above referred to, state that the "youngest child" died ten weeks after the death of the widow, whose funeral charges were settled in September, 1785. There is no mention in these accounts of the widow having remarried, although Westford records give the intention of marriage between "widow Lydia Bixby" and Nathaniel Bowen, 24 Jan., 1783.

As Theophilus was a posthumous child, being born two or three months after the death of his father, he would also be the youngest child; hence the record in the probate court must refer to another child who was not the youngest, and whose name we do not know. Possibly it was a twin with Theophilus.

In spite of the statement by Asa Bixby that the only children living were the two under eight years of age, it seems almost certain that John was then living. His uncle had been appointed his guardian, 19 Sept., 1781,<sup>2</sup> and should have known if he had deceased. Yet there was a John Bixby in Reading, Vt., in 1790, when the census was taken, whose family consisted of himself and one white woman, undoubtedly his wife. There was organized at Reading, Vt., 12 Dec., 1796, the Reformed Catholic Society, with thirty six members, of whom, according to Davis's History of that town, were John and Jacob Bixby. Mr. Luther Bixby is

<sup>1</sup> Letters on file.

<sup>2</sup> Middlesex Probate.



explicit in his statements that John Bixby died without issue, and that he had lived in Reading, and there remains only, in explanation of the conflicting accounts given above, the probability that John Bixby had left Westford prior to September, 1787, before he was of age, and that his uncle had been misinformed regarding his death. As there was no estate to be divided, it is likely the Court did not look very closely into the possibility of there being other children than those in Asa Bixby's charge.

## 1271

IV. DANIEL BIXBY (*Mephibosheih, Daniel, Joseph*), born 31 Dec., 1713, at Andover, Mass.; died at Winchendon, Mass.; married, prior to 1743, TABITHA.

*Children:*

- 1 EUNICE, born 30 April, 1743, at Shrewsbury, Mass.<sup>1</sup> She was of Boylston, which town was set off from Shrewsbury in 1786.<sup>2</sup>
- 2-2 JONATHAN, born 15 Dec., 1744, at Shrewsbury;<sup>1</sup> married Esther Gale.
- 3 HANNAH, born 7 Feb., 1747, at Shrewsbury.<sup>1</sup>
- 4 AARON, born 20 March, 1748-9, or 24 May, 1749, at Shrewsbury.<sup>1</sup>
- 5 DANIEL, born 2 Feb., 1751, at Shrewsbury.<sup>1</sup>
- 6 SARAH, born 8 Feb., 1753, at Shrewsbury.<sup>1</sup>
- 7 LEVINAH, baptized 19 April, 1761, at Chocksett church.<sup>3</sup>
- 8-8 DANIEL, born May, 1763;<sup>4</sup> married Dorithy.
- 9-9 AARON, born 30 April, 1765; married Sarah Carlton.
- J-10 JOEL, born 31 Aug., 1767; married Hannah Woodworth.

DANIEL BIXBY lived in Shrewsbury as early as 1736, on land forming part of the tract known as the Davenport Farm. He sold land in Shrewsbury in 1739, apparently then not married. His name appears on the muster roll of the second company of militia in Shrewsbury, dated 7 April, 1757, as a member of the train-band commanded by Capt. Jabez Beaman.<sup>5</sup>

He apparently removed to Ipswich-Canada (Winchendon) in 1761, as on the 5 May that year he purchased the southern half of lot 3 in the north division, and was described as of Ipswich-Canada. In 1767, however, he and his wife Tabitha are described

<sup>1</sup> Shrewsbury records. The record of Aaron's birth was repeated.

<sup>2</sup> Eunice Bigsbee and Aaron Hodgskins, both of Ipswich-Canada, intend marriage, 18 Dec., 1763; married at Worcester, 24 Jan., 1764. (*Winchendon Records*.) She is styled "Mrs." in the marriage record, but not in the intention of marriage recorded at Lunenburg, 18 Dec., 1768.

<sup>3</sup> Lancaster records.

<sup>4</sup> The dates of birth of the three youngest children are said to have been taken from Winchendon records, but that of Joel cannot now be found.

<sup>5</sup> Massachusetts Archives, 95: 155.



as of Shrewsbury, upon the occasion of their selling 67 acres of land there. Two days later, 19 March, he sold 60 acres of land in Winchendon.<sup>1</sup> The births of the three youngest children are recorded at Winchendon, and not at Shrewsbury.

Mephibosheth Bixby seems to have accompanied Daniel to Winchendon, and at his death Daniel was appointed administrator on his estate.

There is no record of the death of either Daniel Bixby, or of his wife, at Winchendon, and it is possible that they removed prior to 1770.

At a meeting of the proprietors of Ipswich-Canada, 22 June, 1763, he was appointed, with Benjamin Goodridge, Esq., to draft a petition for incorporation as a town, and at the first town meeting, 5 Nov., 1764, he was chosen deer reeve. At the next town meeting, 11 March, 1765, he was elected tythingman and sealer of leather.<sup>2</sup>

## 1272

IV. MARY BIXBY (*Mephibosheth, Daniel, Joseph*), born probably in 1714, baptized 13 Feb., 1715, at Andover, Mass.; married 2 Jan., 1745-6, at Shrewsbury,<sup>3</sup> Mass., JOSEPH FRENCH of Shrewsbury. In Feb., 1746, Mephibosheth Bixby deeded two tracts of land to Joseph French.<sup>4</sup> Soon after this date the family removed to Holden, Mass. Administration was granted in 1762 on the estate of Joseph French of Holden.

*Children, the eldest born at Shrewsbury,<sup>5</sup> the others at Holden:* <sup>6</sup>

- 1 DESIRE FRENCH, a son, born 31 Aug., 1746. "Mr. Desire French" died 11 Sept., 1772, aged 25 years.<sup>6</sup> He had married Abigail, and the marriage intention of Desire French and Abigail Whitcomb "both of Lancaster" is found recorded at Lancaster, 2 Feb., 1769. Administration on the estate of Desire French of Templeton was granted at Worcester in 1772.

Child:

1. Becca, of "desire and Abigail," born 19 April, 1770.<sup>7</sup> Becca French and Asa Whitcomb, Jr., married 9 Nov., 1788.<sup>8</sup>

- 2 MARY FRENCH, born 6 Aug., 1748.
- 3 JOSEPH FRENCH, born 24 Aug., 1750.
- 4 ELIZABETH FRENCH, born 5 Jan., 1753.

<sup>1</sup> Worcester Deeds, 47: 535; 57: 296; 58: 317. For his purchases, see Deeds, 8: 160; 35: 249; 45: 500.

<sup>2</sup> Hyde: History of Winchendon, 1849. See also Marvin.

<sup>3</sup> Shrewsbury Vital Records.

<sup>4</sup> Worcester Deeds, 24: 264.

<sup>5</sup> Vital Records, also Ward: History of Shrewsbury.

<sup>6</sup> Holden Vital Records, children of "Joseph and Mary."

<sup>7</sup> Templeton Vital Records.

<sup>8</sup> Princeton Vital Records.

## 1273

IV. SAMUEL BIXBY (*Mephibosheth, Daniel, Joseph*), born 31 Aug., 1716, at Andover, Mass.; died 12 March, 1800, aged 84 years, at Boylston,<sup>1</sup> Mass.; married MARY, unquestionably MARY BUCK of Woburn, whose marriage to Samuel Bigsbee is recorded at Woburn, Nov., 1737. She was probably daughter of John and Priscilla Buck of Woburn, and born there 2 Oct., 1712.<sup>2</sup> Chelmsford, Mass., was allowed to caution, 11 Dec., 1739, against Samuel Bixby, Mary his wife, and Samuel their son, who had lately come from Shrewsbury, Mass.<sup>3</sup> In Feb., 1740, he is styled of Westford, cordwainer, and was sued for debt by Charles Dorough of Nottingham, and Samuel Tuttle of Littleton, millwright. Failing to satisfy the judgment he was thrown into jail at Worcester, June, 1741.<sup>4</sup> He returned to Shrewsbury, and was living there in 1745, but in 1758 was of Lancaster, Mass.<sup>5</sup> His intention of marriage was recorded in Lancaster, 8 Oct., 1773, to SARAH BEAMEN of Lancaster, widow.<sup>6</sup>

Sarah wife of Samuel Bixby died at Boylston, 21 Jan., 1800,<sup>1</sup> aged 88 years.

Samuel Bixby was a member of the train band of Capt. Jabez Beamen of Shrewsbury, 7 April, 1757.<sup>7</sup>

*Children:*

- 1- 1 SAMUEL, born prior to Dec., 1739; married Hannah Powers.
- 2- 2 JOSEPH, born 1741;<sup>8</sup> married Miriam Bryan; (2) Elizabeth Hadley.
- 3- 3 MANASSEH, born probably about 1743; married Elizabeth Dunsmore.
- 4- 4 JOHN, born 5 March, 1747;<sup>9</sup> married Mary Floyd.
- 5- 5 EPHRAIM, born 11 April, 1754, at Lancaster; married Phebe Wilder; (2) Susanna Wood.
- 6- 6 MARTHA, twin with Ephraim; probably married Nathaniel Bidwell.<sup>10</sup>
- 7 MARY, married 21 Jan., 1765, Jedidiah Woods of Warwick.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Boylston records.

<sup>2</sup> Middlesex Sessions,

<sup>3</sup> Woburn records.

<sup>4</sup> Suffolk files, 53,816, 63,701.

<sup>5</sup> Ezra Beman of Shrewsbury to Samuel Bigsby of Lancaster, yeoman, 12½ acres in Lancaster, "the land where said Bigsby now liveth," 13 May, 1759. (*Worcester Deeds*, 42: 302.) The preceding year, in April, he had bought 4 acres in Lancaster. (*Ibid.*, 40: 246.) He was a cordwainer. Samuel Bixby of Boylston sold 5 acres in Sterling to Jacob Glazier of Sterling, 25 Nov., 1789, and 19 acres in Boylston to Ezra Beman, 20 March, 1792. His wife, Sarah, appears in both deeds. (*Worcester Deeds*, 111: 211; 115: 118.)

<sup>6</sup> Information received from Ezra S. Stearns, Fitchburg, Mass., who also found the marriage intention recorded at Shrewsbury, 26 Oct., 1773.

<sup>7</sup> Massachusetts Archives, 95: 255.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, 97: 373.

<sup>9</sup> Information received from Mrs. Ella M. Frentz (12735.13-1) of Melrose, Mass.

<sup>10</sup> Lancaster records. The intention of marriage of Martha Bixby and Josiah Hedley of Lancaster, 1 June, 1770, appears on Lancaster records; but their marriage is not recorded. The His-

## 1276

IV. NATHANIEL BIXBY (*Mephibosheth, Daniel, Joseph*), born 24 March, 1719, at Andover, Mass.; died 2 Oct., 1777; married Sept., 1742,<sup>1</sup> at Lancaster, Mass., JERUSHA HOUGHTON, born Feb., 1721,<sup>2</sup> died 17 May, 1812, at Weathersfield, Vt.,<sup>3</sup> daughter of Joshua and Elizabeth Houghton of Lancaster.

*Children,<sup>4</sup> born at Shrewsbury:*<sup>5</sup>

- 1- 1 LEVI, born 7 Aug., 1743; married Ruth Darling; (2) Mrs. Tabitha Foster Boynton.
- 2 ELIZABETH, born 14 Aug., 1746; married 26 March, 1767, at Winchendon, Isaac Stimson.<sup>6</sup>
- 3 JERUSHA,<sup>7</sup> twin with Elizabeth; married 10 July, 1770, John Joyner. The intention of marriage appears 2 April, 1770, as Delpha Bixby and John Joyner.
- 4- 4 KEZIAH, born 25 May, 1749; married Richard Pearson;<sup>6</sup> (2) Deacon Amos Hayward.
- 5 LOIS, born 5 May, 1751; married 28 Sept., 1772, at Winchendon, Abijah Stimson.<sup>6</sup>

tory of Littleton, N. H., states that Nathaniel Bidwell, born 1750 at Hartford, Conn.; died 1812 at Littleton; married, 1772, Martha Bixby, who died 26 Oct., 1785, and that she was daughter of Samuel Bixby. Josiah Hedley was son of John and Deborah Hedley of Lancaster, born 7 March, 1747. In 1790, the Census enumerates three Josiah Hedleys or Hadleys as heads of a family, in Athol, Orange, and Sterling respectively.

<sup>1</sup> The intention of marriage 27 Aug., 1742, at Lancaster, and 11 Sept., 1742, at Shrewsbury.

<sup>2</sup> 6 June, 1720, according to a record received from George A. Bixby (12766.53), Hardy, Neb.

<sup>3</sup> Weathersfield, Vt., records.

<sup>4</sup> Abigail Bixby, spinster, Levi Bixby, Nathaniel Bixby, Isaac Stimson and Elizabeth his wife, Keziah Pearson, widow, Abijah Stimson and Lois his wife, all of Winchendon, John Joyner and Jerusha his wife of Charlestown, N. H., heirs of Nathaniel Bixby, late of Winchendon, quit claim to Adonijah Bixby of Winchendon 62 acres land there, 15 Dec., 1778. (*Worcester Deeds*, 124: 565.)

<sup>5</sup> Shrewsbury Vital Records.

<sup>6</sup> Winchendon records.

<sup>7</sup> The name of this child was Jerusha, as shown by the deed quoted above, and she married John Joyner as stated. They removed from Winchendon, and at the time of the Revolution were probably residents of Charlestown, N. H. The U. S. Census of 1790 reveals a John Joyner at Halifax, Vt., the head of a family consisting of self, three males under 16 years, and four females. No other John Joyner is found enumerated in that Census in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, or Vermont, nor is a Jerusha Joyner given as head of any family. There was a William Joiner in Deerfield, Mass., in Bolton, Vt., and in Randolph, Vt., each the head of a family. One of these Williams was probably that William of Waitsfield, Vt., who had residence there at least from 1795-1800, and who also had wife Jerusha. John Joyner, also Francis Joyner, were members of the company of which Jonathan Bigsby was sergeant and Jason Wait commander, in Col. Bedel's regiment, Feb., 1776. Both Joyners were named in the return made by Col. Benjamin Bellows, as part of the quota raised from his regiment of militia for service in the Continental "battalion"; John being described as of Charlestown, and Francis of Walpole. The enlistment of John Joyner dated from the 14 March, 1777. He is described as sergeant, from Charlestown, aged 30 years, and was a member of the company commanded by Capt. Isaac Farwell in Col. John Stark's regiment, the 1st New Hampshire Continental Regt., and his name appears on the Depreciation Roll made up 1 Jan., 1780. There is no evidence at Washington to show that he applied for a pension. William Joiner was also the name of a corporal in Capt. Spafford's company of Vermont Militia in 1778 and 1780, and also saw service in 1781.

- 6- 6 ADONIJAH, born 23 May, 1753; married Mary Brown.
- 7- 7 ABIGAIL, born 5 Sept., 1755; married David Hayward.
- 8- 8 NATHANIEL, born 30 July, 1758; married Abigail Hayward; (2) Mrs. Katherine (Felch) Hayward.
- 9 EUNICE, born 30 May, 1762; probably died early. She is not mentioned in settlement of her father's estate in 1778.

NATHANIEL BIXBY appears frequently on Worcester deeds as grantor of lands in Shrewsbury and Winchendon. He was styled of Winchendon as early as 1766.<sup>1</sup> His first purchase was 16 acres, part of the Davenport farm at Shrewsbury, which he bought of his brother Daniel Bixby for £32, 7 May, 1739. He purchased 100 acres in Winchendon, 26 Oct., 1762, and 80 acres in 1767; also other land in 1766.

His name appears on a roll of the train band in Shrewsbury, commanded by Capt. Jabez Beaman, 7 April, 1757.<sup>2</sup> Administration on his estate was granted 3 Nov., 1778, to Levi Bixby.<sup>3</sup> The inventory of his estate included land and "frame for a house."

At the first town meeting held after the incorporation of the town, 5 Nov., 1764, Nathaniel Bixby was chosen town treasurer and sealer of leather. The following year, 11 March, 1765, he was chosen one of the three selectmen.<sup>4</sup>

## 1277

IV. MARTHA BIXBY (*Mephibosheth, Daniel, Joseph*), born 2 March, 1721-2, at Andover, Mass. She may be the Martha Ball who died at Boylston, 23 July, 1781.<sup>5</sup> Her intention of marriage with PHINEAS BALL of Lancaster was recorded 27 May, 1741.<sup>6</sup> Phineas Ball was taxed in Holden in 1743, but does not appear in the census of the families of 1760.<sup>7</sup>

*Children, born at Holden:* <sup>8</sup>

- 1 DANIEL BALL, born 9 Jan., 1742.
- 2 JEMIMA BALL, born 6 Feb., 1744. A Jemima Ball was married at Lunenburg, 17 Nov., 1762, to Henry Hodgskin of Ipswich-Canada.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Worcester Deeds, 63:42.

<sup>2</sup> Massachusetts Archives, French War files.

<sup>3</sup> Worcester Probate.

<sup>4</sup> Hyde: History of Winchendon, 1849. See also Marvin.

<sup>5</sup> Boylston Vital Records.

<sup>6</sup> Lancaster records.

<sup>7</sup> Estes: History of Holden, p. 359. Guardianship of Phineas Ball of Watertown was granted at Worcester, 1734; ditto of Rutland, 1772. The will of Phineas Ball of Winchendon was proved 1854. Guardianship of Martha Ball of Southboro was granted 1757. (*Worcester Probate Index*.) A Phineas Ball of Holden was married 8 Feb., 1786, to Eunice Kimball, and in Dec., 1805, to Eunice Goodale, who died the same month.

<sup>8</sup> Holden Vital Records.

<sup>9</sup> Princeton Vital Records.



- 3 ABNER BALL, born 8 April, 1746.
- 4 ELIJAH BALL, born 2 March, 1748. Removed to Boylston, where he died 10 Nov., 1834, aged 86. He married Rebecca, who died 13 Oct., 1829, aged 75 years.<sup>1</sup>
- Children:
1. Elijah Ball, born 29 Aug., 1771.
  2. Abigail Ball, born 25 July, 1773; died 1 March, 1776.
  3. Amariah Ball, born 30 Jan., 1776.
  4. Levi Ball, born 6 Jan., 1778.
  5. Reuben Ball, born 9 May, 1780.
  6. Rebecca Ball, born 1 June, 1782.
  7. Micah Ross Ball, born 29 July, 1784.
  8. Nabba Ball, died 17 April, 1790, aged 3 years, 2 months, 17 days.
  9. Patty Ball, born 20 March, 1789.
  10. Jonah Ball, born 13 May, 1791.
  11. Phineas Ball, born 20 Aug., 1794.
  12. Cinda Ball, born 12 Feb., 1797.
  13. Mannassah Sawyer Ball, born 28 Dec., 1800.
- 5 BENJAMIN BALL, born 31 March, 1750.

## 1291

IV. EXPERIENCE BIXBY (*Joseph, Daniel, Joseph*), born 12 March, 1723-4, at Andover, Mass.; died 3 Sept., 1815; married 4 June, 1747, WILLIAM ABBOTT of Andover, born 9 Oct., 1724, at Lexington, Mass., died 2 Jan., 1798, at Andover,<sup>2</sup> son of Nehemiah Abbott.

William Abbott was a member of the Committee of Safety of Andover in 1774, and a volunteer member of Capt. Holt's company which responded to the alarm of the 19 April, 1775. He was one of the selectmen of Andover.

*Children.*<sup>3</sup>

- 1 JEDUTHAN ABBOTT,<sup>4</sup> born 1 Aug., 1749; died 26 Dec., 1821, at Andover; married there in 1772, Hannah Poor, born 1754, died 3 Sept., 1823, daughter of Peter and Sarah H. (Wood) Poor. He received from his parents a deed to one half of all the lands possessed in 1747 by his grandfather Joseph Bixby, deceased, prior to conveyance of any part of Joseph Bixby's estate to William Abbott. The consideration named in the deed was £200.<sup>5</sup> Jeduthan Abbott served in the Revolution as a private and as sergeant. In after years he obtained the rank of captain in militia.

<sup>1</sup> Boylston Vital Records.<sup>2</sup> Will dated 28 March, 1793, proved 5 Feb., 1798.<sup>3</sup> Abbott: Descendants of George Abbott of Rowley, etc., pp. 215, 413-415, where the date of death of Experience (Bixby) Abbott is given 4 Sept., 1815. Descendants of Jeduthan and Bixby Abbott are to be found in that work.<sup>4</sup> Experience Abbott of Andover, widow, in consideration of certain annual payments for her support, conveys to Jeduthan Abbot, Fanny Johnson, widow, Sally Abbot, Amos Abbot, Abigail Abbot, all of Andover, and Lydia Richardson, wife of John L. Richardson of Corinth, Vt., children of Jeduthan Abbot late of Andover, gentleman, deceased, all her right in an undivided one half interest in land and buildings in Andover, improved by said Jeduthan Abbot, deceased, being the estate she was entitled to under the will of Joseph Bixby, of Andover, husbandman, deceased, 26 Oct., 1810. (*Essex Deeds*, 191: 165.)<sup>5</sup> *Essex Deeds*, 159: 238.



Children, born at Andover:

1. Hannah Abbott, born 10 July, 1773.
  2. Lucy Abbott, born 9 Oct., 1775; died 16 Aug., 1798.
  3. Jeduthan Abbott, born 18 June, 1777.
  4. Fanny Abbott, born 30 March, 1779; died 19 July, 1829; married Osgood Johnson.
  5. Lydia Abbott, born 24 March, 1781; died Feb., 1843; married John L. Richardson; (2) ——— Folsom.
  6. Sarah Peabody Abbott, born 4 July, 1783; died 17 Feb., 1820.
  7. Amos Abbott, born 7 Sept., 1786.
  8. Abigail Abbott, born 23 May, 1790; died 24 Oct., 1844; married Capt. Thomas Chandler Foster.
  9. Pamela Abbott, born 11 Oct., 1792; died 31 Aug., 1798.
  10. Rebecca Abbott, born 10 March, 1795; died 8 Sept., 1798.
- 2 BIXBY (Bacby) ABBOTT, born 24 Nov., 1750; died, 1813, at Greenfield, N. H.; married 9 Jan., 1772, at Andover, Hepzibah Ames, who died 20 May, 1796, aged forty years, daughter of Capt. Benjamin and Hepzibah (Chandler) Ames. He married (2) Mary Johnson, who died 27 March, 1805, aged forty eight years. He served in the army during the siege of Boston with rank of corporal, and was one of the Andover men who responded to the alarm of the 19 April, 1775.
- Children, born at Andover:
1. Hepzibah Abbott, born 17 Aug., 1772; married Joshua Bailey.
  2. William Abbott, born 14 July, 1774.
  3. Benjamin Abbott, born 8 March, 1776.
  4. Betsey Abbott, born 18 Sept., 1780; died Oct., 1817; married Nathan Bailey.
  5. Joseph Abbott, born 1 Feb., 1783; died at sea; married Rachel Corcoran.
  6. Henry Abbott, born 5 March, 1785.
  7. Asa Abbott, born 7 March, 1787.
  8. Samuel Abbott, born 28 Jan., 1789.
  9. Nehemiah Abbott, born 18 Oct., 1790.
  10. Timothy Abbott, born 4 July, 1796; died Aug., 1825; married Myra Greenough.
- 3 HANNAH ABBOTT, born 15 July, 1753; died 7 July, 1792.<sup>1</sup>
- 4 LUCY ABBOTT, born 3 Sept., 1758; married 11 March, 1775, John Brown of Hopkinton. N. H.
- 5 SARAH ABBOTT, born 16 June, 1763; died 22 April, 1786; married 9 Feb., 1786, Isaac Mooars, born 16 Feb., 1758-9, died 12 Jan., 1831, aged 72 years, son of Abraham and Lydia (Abbott) Mooars of Andover. No issue.

## 1292

IV. HANNAH BIXBY (*Joseph, Daniel, Joseph*), born 19 Aug., 1726, at Andover, Mass.; died 15 Feb., 1747-8, at Billerica, Mass.;<sup>2</sup> married 25 Feb., 1746-7, DAVID OSGOOD of Billerica,<sup>3</sup> born 3 June, 1724, died 2 Feb., 1768, son of Christopher and Elizabeth (Dan-

<sup>1</sup> Her daughter Phebe married Nathan Bailey.

<sup>2</sup> Hazen: History of Billerica.

<sup>3</sup> Andover Vital Records. The Osgood Genealogy, following Hazen's Billerica, p. 102, states that David Osgood's first wife was Hannah Davis, but gives no date of marriage. David's son Phineas married a Hannah Davis of Concord. By a second wife, Sarah Danforth, whom he married 15 Nov., 1748, David Osgood had several children.

forth) Osgood. David Osgood was captain in the militia. He was an inn-keeper.

*Child:*

- 1 DAVID OSGOOD, born 6, died 7 Feb., 1747-8.

### 1323

IV. MARY BIXBY (*Benjamin, Benjamin, Joseph*), baptized 4 May, 1707, at Topsfield, Mass.; married 13 Feb., 1728, at Killingly,<sup>1</sup> Conn., STEPHEN COMINS, born 12 Jan., 1702, at Woburn, Mass.,<sup>2</sup> died probably at Hampton, Conn., son of John and Mary Comins of Killingly,<sup>3</sup> formerly of Woburn and Oxford, Mass.

In 1736 Stephen Comins, who had been associated with his father in milling and building, purchased land adjoining to that owned by Benjamin Bixby. His wife was the second woman received into the church at Thompson in 1730. John Comins, father of Stephen, was employed in 1728 as master workman in the erection of the meeting house in Thompson parish. Thus it happened that the son of the builder of the meeting house married the daughter of the first deacon elected by the church. Stephen and Mary Comins removed from Killingly, soon after the events narrated above, to Hampton.

*Children:*<sup>1</sup>

- 1 SARAH COMINS, born 27 Aug., 1729.
- 2 KEZIAH COMINS, born 7 Feb., 1731.
- 3 MARY COMINS, born 27 April, 1733.
- 4 MARTHA COMINS, born 1 April, 1735.
- 5 STEPHEN COMINS, born 20 June, 1737; died 26 March, 1825; married Patty, who died 14 Sept., 1818, aged seventy six years. They lived in Killingly and Hampton.

Children, born at Hampton:

1. Patty Comins, born 1772; died, 1792, unmarried.
2. Stephen Comins, born 1776; died 1846 at Hampton; married 31 Dec., 1797, Polly Mumford.
3. Anna Comins, born 2 May, 1778.
4. Betsey Comins, born 22 Oct., 1781.
5. Guy Comins, died 18 Nov., 1809.

### 1324

IV. JOHN BIXBY (*Benjamin, Benjamin, Joseph*), baptized 17 July, 1709, at Topsfield, Mass.; died probably in Connecticut,

<sup>1</sup> Church records, Killingly, Conn.

<sup>2</sup> Woburn records.

<sup>3</sup> Cummings Genealogy (1904), p. 567.

but settlement of his estate, or other record of his death, has not been found. He married 4 Dec., 1735, at Killingly, Conn.,<sup>1</sup> JEMIMA GREEN, born 24 April, 1718,<sup>2</sup> daughter of Jacob and Dorothy (Lynde) Green.

John Bixby was admitted to the church in Killingly in 1737. Two years later he was living in Dudley, Mass.,<sup>3</sup> but within a year or two had returned to Killingly, living in that part set off as Thompson.<sup>4</sup> John Bixby and wife Jemima, of Ellington, were admitted to the church at Stafford, Conn.,<sup>5</sup> 2 Sept., 1770.

*Children, except the second, born or baptized at Thompson:*<sup>1</sup>

- 1 JEMIMA, born 21 Oct., 1736, baptized 26 June, 1737; died 4 Oct., 1741.
- 2 JOHN, born 28 Jan., 1738-9; died 26 Sept., 1741.
- 3 DOROTHY, baptized 3 May, 1741. On the baptismal register recorded as daughter of Jonathan Bixby.
- 4 JOSIAH, baptized 21 Nov., 1742.
- 5 JEMIMA, born 16 June, 1743, baptized 19 June.
- 6-7 GEORGE, born 18 Feb., 1746, baptized 23 Feb.
- 7 MARTHA, born 28 July, 1748, baptized 31 July.
- 8 TAMER, born 18 March, 1750, baptized 24 March, 1751. She is probably the "Mrs." Tamar Bixby who was admitted to Stafford church, 7 Dec., 1783.
- 9 ESTHER, baptized 14 April, 1754.
- J-10 BENJAMIN, born 2 May, 1759; married Margaret Walker.
- 11 ELIZABETH, baptized 5 Sept., 1762.

## 1326

IV. RICHARD BIXBY (*Benjamin, Benjamin, Joseph*), baptized 6 May, 1716, at Reading, Mass.; died 1743-1746; married 4 Jan.,

<sup>1</sup> Thompson parish and church records, except the birth of Benjamin.

<sup>2</sup> Information of Miss Ellen D. Larned. Jemima Green descended from Thomas Green of Malden, Mass., whose son, Lt. Henry Green, married Esther Hasey. Jacob, born 1689, died 1723, son of Lt. Henry, left a widow who married John Barritt and removed to Thompson parish. John Bixby and Jemima his wife, of Dudley, 2 Nov., 1739, sold to James Barrett of Sherburn for £135 a messuage with 6½ acres, in Malden, bounded by lands of Jonathan Barrett, Thomas Green, and Meriam, daughter of Jacob Green, deceased. (*Middlesex Deeds*, 43: 381.) John Bixby and Jemima his wife, of Killingly, Jacob Green of Sutton, clerk, Uriah Richardson and Meriam his wife, of Dudley, Ephraim Brown and Dorothy his wife, of Stoneham, Benjamin Green, tanner, and Joseph Hascall and Katherine his wife, all of Killingly, sold 29 March, 1745, for £240, to Isaac Green of Stoneham, two parcels of land in Stoneham. The same grantees also sold their interest in an estate in Malden. (*Middlesex Deeds*, 44: 223; 58: 183.)

<sup>3</sup> *Middlesex Deeds*, 43: 381.

<sup>4</sup> John Bixby bought land in Killingly in 1734; exchanged land there in 1735; and 19 April, 1739, sold to Richard Bixby two parcels of land there, probably his entire holdings. (*Deeds*, 4: 13, 28, 142.) On 28 Feb., 1743, he purchased, for £200, of Estes Peabody, a farm in Killingly. (*Ibid.*, 5: 2.)

<sup>5</sup> Mrs. Abigail Bixby died 8 Sept., 1817, aged 99 years. (*North Stafford, Conn., records.*) Her connection with the family is not known.

1742, at Dudley, Mass., ESTHER (GILES) TAYLOR,<sup>1</sup> widow of James Taylor, Jr., daughter of John and Esther (Swinnerton) Giles<sup>2</sup> of Salem, baptized 8 July, 1718, died 20 Dec., 1788, at Topsfield, Mass., "widow of Deacon John Gould, aged seventy one years."<sup>3</sup> She married, third, 5 Jan., 1748-1749, John Gould,<sup>4</sup> son of Zacheus and Elizabeth (Curtis) Gould.<sup>2</sup> Deacon John Gould was born at Topsfield, 29 Jan., 1709-1710, died 28 June, 1778, at Watertown, of the small-pox. He was attending the General Court as deputy from Topsfield.<sup>3</sup>

RICHARD BIXBY purchased land in Killingly of John Bixby, Jan., 1733-4, and 19 April, 1739.<sup>5</sup> The latter year he was one of those who built pews in the meeting-house gallery. There is no record of his death or settlement of his estate.

#### *Child:*

- 1 BENJAMIN, born 5 Nov., 1743, baptized 15 Jan., 1744, at Thompson parish<sup>6</sup> in Killingly; died 10 Dec., 1747, at Topsfield,<sup>3</sup> "son of widow Esther Bixby."

### 1343

IV. SAMUEL BIXBY (*Samuel, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 9 Sept., 1721, at Sutton, Mass.; died 3 March, 1809; married 13 March, 1751, at Sutton,<sup>7</sup> LYDIA BOND, born 28 June, 1730, at Weston, Mass.,<sup>8</sup> died 12 March, 1776, daughter of Josiah and Elizabeth (Fuller) Bond and a descendant of Jonas and Rose Bond of Bury St. Edmunds, England, whose sons Jonas and William were early settlers of Watertown.

SAMUEL BIXBY married, second, 25 Feb., 1781, MRS. REBECCA (CHASE) BARTLETT,<sup>7</sup> who died probably in October, 1788.<sup>9</sup> He married, third, 28 June, 1789, MRS. HULDAH TOWNE,<sup>1</sup> who died 4 Feb., 1843, aged 104 years,<sup>10</sup> at Bethel, widow of Isaac Towne, daughter of Jonathan Pratt. When ninety two years of age she travelled from Oxford, Mass., to Bethel, Me.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Dudley records.

<sup>3</sup> Church record quoted in Topsfield Vital Records.

<sup>2</sup> Gould: Gould Genealogy.

<sup>4</sup> Topsfield Vital Records.

<sup>5</sup> Killingly Deeds, 4: 12, 152. The later purchase consisted of four acres of meadow bottom and six acres on Whiting's Plain.

<sup>6</sup> Thompson church records.

<sup>7</sup> Sutton Vital Records.

<sup>8</sup> Family records of C. M. Bixby (13436. 4K2) Seattle, Wash.

<sup>9</sup> The will of Rebekah Bixby of Sutton dated 9 Sept., 1788, was allowed 4 Nov., 1788. Jonathan Chase her brother was executor. She left her estate to minor children, Josiah Bartlett, Betty Bartlett, Anna Bartlett, David Bixby. (*Worcester Probate.*)

<sup>10</sup> Daniels: History of Oxford.



*Children, born at Sutton:*<sup>1</sup>

- 1 BETSEY, born 16 Jan., 1752; died 8 May, 1776,<sup>2</sup> unmarried.
- 2- 2 LYDIA BOND, born 17 Oct., 1753; married Moses Park.
- 3- 3 SAMUEL, born 24 Sept., 1755; married Mary Greenwood.
- 4- 4 SARAH, born 9 July, 1757; married Jonathan Stone.
- 5- 5 SAMPSON, born 22 May, 1759;<sup>3</sup> married Sarah Richardson.
- 6- 6 SOLOMON, born 30 Sept., 1761; married Lucy Taylor.
- 7- 7 ESTHER, born 27 Jan., 1764; married John Woodbury.
- 8- 8 ANNA, born 27 Jan., 1766; married Israel Jacobs.
- 9 MOLLY, born 9 Feb., 1768; died 11 June, 1799.
- J-10 JOHN, born 20 Oct., 1770; married Betsy Willard.
- 11 SIMON, born 16 May, 1774; died 30 Dec., 1780.

*By second marriage:*

- L-12 DAVID, born 19 Feb., 1783; married Laura Foster.

SAMUEL BIXBY was a carpenter. Dr. Bond devoted several pages in his history of Watertown to a genealogy of this branch of the family. His collections were made in 1847, at which time several of the children of Samuel Bixby were living. He does not mention the second marriage. He states that Samuel Bixby was the first white male child born in Sutton.<sup>4</sup>

## 1346

IV. JONATHAN BIXBY (*Samuel, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 29 Sept., 1728, at Sutton, Mass.; died later than 1802, perhaps at Oxford, Mass.; married ELIZABETH, who was probably living in 1775. He married, second, 3 June, 1784, at Oxford, KEZIA (AMMI-DOWN) ALLEN of the South Gore, born 4 April, 1739,<sup>5</sup> died 5 Aug., 1804,<sup>6</sup> widow of John Allen, whom she married 16 June, 1771,

<sup>1</sup> Sutton Vital Records.<sup>2</sup> Bond: History of Watertown.<sup>3</sup> Or 23 May, according to George W. Marble (13433.11-21).

<sup>4</sup> Family records sent by C. M. Bixby (13436.4K2) do not mention the marriage to Rebecca Bartlett, but give the name of Samuel's second wife as Miss Chase, born 1739, died 4 Feb., 1843. John Bartlett married Rebecca Chase, 23 April, 1772. (*History of Sutton*, p. 586.) They had Elizabeth, Josiah, and Ann, the last born in 1779. Col. C. A. Converse in his *Converse and Allied Families*, in which eighteen pages are devoted largely to this branch of the family, states that Samuel married, second, Rebecca Bartlett, and third, 28 June, 1789, Mrs. Hulda Towne, and that she died 4 Feb., 1843, aged 104 years. The service in the Revolution there ascribed to Samuel was performed by his son Samuel, who gives a record of his service in his pension application. According to the Bixby Ms. Samuel's third wife was Huldah, widow of Isaac Pratt and daughter of Jonathan Pratt. She is there said to have died 4 Feb., 1843, at Bethel, aged 104 years. Samuel Bixby in his will, dated 30 Sept., 1796, proved 2 May, 1809, mentions his "wife." He also names his daughters, Lydia Park, Sarah Bixby, Esther Bixby, Anna Jacobs, Molly Bixby, and sons Sampson, Solomon, to whom he gives 300 acres in a township on the Androscoggin River, John, David, under 21 years of age, and Samuel, with whom David is to live. His real estate he left to his son Samuel. (*Worcester Probate*.)

<sup>5</sup> Daniels: History of Oxford.<sup>6</sup> Woodstock, Conn., records.



and daughter of Ephraim and Hannah (Dean) Ammidown of Oxford. Ephraim Ammidown bequeathed by will, which was not allowed, to his daughter Kezia one half as much as the other children.

*Children:*<sup>1</sup>

- 1- 1 SAMUEL, born 30 May, 1754; baptized 21 Dec., 1755; married Elizabeth Strong; (2) Sarah Nelson; (3) Martha Ketchum.
- 2 JACOB, born 11 July, 1756; died 17 Dec., 1821, at Lyme, N. H., unmarried. While in a charcoal camp, the cabin in which he slept took fire, and he perished in the flames. He was a member of a company commanded by Capt. John Green, Col. Ebenezer William's (11th) regiment of Connecticut militia at New York in 1776.<sup>2</sup> He again enlisted for three years, 3 May, 1777, and served until 31 May, 1780, in Capt. Child's company from Woodstock, Conn. He was also in service with the militia under Col. Canfield in Sept., 1781, at West Point. In 1818 his name appears among the Connecticut pensioners living in New Hampshire.
- 3 MARTHA, born 5 June, 1758; baptized 16 June, 1758; living 1767.
- 4- 4 JONATHAN, born 4 May, 1760; baptized 27 April, 1760; married Esther Newton.
- 5- 5 ELIZABETH, born 2 Sept., 1762; married Joel Converse.
- 6- 6 SALMON, born 1763;<sup>3</sup> married Abigail Chamberlain.
- 7 AMASA, baptized 10 March, 1765. His will was probated at North Adams, Mass., 15 Oct., 1845. He married, being then described as of New Grantham, N. H., 7 April, 1793, at Sturbridge, Mass., Mary Blanchard of Sturbridge. They had no children, but adopted a daughter, Maria.
- 8- 8 WILLARD, baptized 12 July, 1767, at Charlton, Mass.;<sup>4</sup> married Anna Chapman.
- 9 WALTER, born 1770; of Lyme, N. H., 1790;<sup>5</sup> died 26 April, 1812, at Claremont, N. H., probably unmarried.
- J-10 CHLOE, born 1771; married Josiah Sheldon.

JONATHAN BIXBY was a tanner. In 1759 he appears as the owner of tan vats in Killingly, whither it is supposed he had removed in 1751.<sup>6</sup> On the 7 April, 1760, he purchased of Michael Adams a house, barn and shop, east of the country road, with land adjoining, paying therefor £122-13.<sup>7</sup> He bought land in Charlton Dis-

<sup>1</sup> The births of the four eldest children are from Killingly, Conn., records, and the baptismal dates prior to 1767 from church records, Thompson, Conn.

<sup>2</sup> Certificate of Adj.-Gen. of Conn. in Converse and Allied Families, p. 821, also Conn. Men in the Revolution.

<sup>3</sup> Rice: Worcester Co. Warnings. Salmon is not mentioned among the children of Jonathan warned in 1767. His birth record has not been found. It is quite probable that he was not born until after leaving Killingly, but his service in the Revolution would seem to indicate that he was born earlier than 1767.

<sup>4</sup> Charlton church records.

<sup>5</sup> U. S. Census, 1790.

<sup>6</sup> Converse: Converse and Allied Families, p. 816. When Col. Converse published his work in 1905, it was thought Capt. Jonathan Bixby (1861), of Nobletown, was identical with Jonathan (1346).

<sup>7</sup> Killingly Deeds, 7: 30.

trict, Mass., in 1765, then calling himself of Killingly, tanner.<sup>1</sup> On the 6 Jan., 1767, Charlton was allowed to caution against Jonathan Bixby, his wife Elizabeth, and their children, Samuel, Jacob, Martha, Jonathan, Eliza, and Amasa, all late of Killingly;<sup>2</sup> and that same year, on 12 May, Jonathan Bixby of Charlton purchased of Benjamin Cady, Jr., of Killingly, 100 acres in Chesterfield, it being lot 54 of the old Hingham property.<sup>3</sup> In 1776 and in 1778 the town of Charlton, in town meeting, refused to abate the tax of Jonathan Bixby.<sup>4</sup> It appears that he had served in the army in 1776, probably with the guards about Boston, for under date of 28 Nov., 1776, a pay abstract of Capt. Benjamin Richardson's company, in Col. Dyke's regiment, contains a credit to Jonathan Bixby of Charlton for three days travel to Dorchester Heights.<sup>5</sup> This record undoubtedly refers to Jonathan (1346) as his son Jonathan, who had a long service record, does not mention this service as performed by him. In Nov., 1780, Jonathan, as of Dudley, bought land with a dwelling house upon it, situated in the middle of that town, of Benjamin Edmunds.<sup>1</sup> He was of Oxford in 1786 and also in 1802, and in these later deeds styles himself both cordwainer and yeoman.

There is a tradition among descendants of Jonathan Bixby that he had eleven sons in the Revolutionary army, of whom nine survived the war and married. He is known to have had ten children, and this myth of the eleven sons probably points to the fact that there was an eleventh child. It is impossible that he could have had eleven or even nine sons in the army. Samuel, Jacob, Jonathan, and Solomon, the four eldest sons, were in the army, and it is quite probable that Amasa may have served in the militia upon the occasion of some alarm, and this may be true of the two younger sons. Although the Revolutionary rolls are in some measure defective, it is not likely that all three of the younger sons could have performed service, and failed to get their names on the rolls of some organization, unless they responded to some passing alarm, all in the same command, the service of which

<sup>1</sup> Worcester Deeds.

<sup>2</sup> Rice: Worcester Co. Warnings. Salmon is not mentioned among the children of Jonathan warned in 1767. His birth record has not been found. It is quite probable that he was not born until after leaving Killingly, but his service in the Revolution would seem to indicate that he was born earlier than 1767.

<sup>3</sup> Hampden Co., Mass., Deeds, 9: 641.

<sup>4</sup> Charlton town records.

<sup>5</sup> Mass. Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolution.

was of such a trifling character that no return was made to the State. Family tradition, although often accurate, and always of importance, is frequently vague and prone to exaggeration.<sup>1</sup>

Concerning the family of Jonathan Bixby, the Rev. Amasa Converse said, "My mother Elizabeth Bixby (13465) was a native of Woodstock, Conn., born in 1760, and died in 1850, aged 90 years. Of her family little is known to me, except that she had brothers, Samuel, Jacob and Jonathan, who were Revolutionary soldiers, and Amasa, Walter and Willard. She had two sisters, Martha and Chloe. The latter was living in 1871, at the age of 100 years, in the state of Vermont."

## 1347

IV. SAMPSON BIXBY (*Samuel, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 3 March, 1731, at Sutton, Mass.; died in 1789 or earlier, perhaps 1785, at Barre, Mass. His widow had administration on his estate, 7 March, 1789.<sup>2</sup> He married 1 Dec., 1761, at Barre, MARY BULLARD, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Bullard, and a descendant of Benjamin Bullard of Watertown. She may have died 2 April, 1793.

*Children, born at Barre:*

- 1- 1 SARAH, married David Smith; (2) Jonathan Walker.
- 2- 2 SAMUEL, born 1764; married Sarah Smith.
- 3- 3 RUFUS, born 11 July, 1768; baptized 14 Aug., 1768;<sup>3</sup> married Lois Woodward.
- 4 MARY, baptized 11 Aug., 1771; unmarried in April, 1799.<sup>4</sup>
- 5- 5 SALMON, born 9, baptized 21 May, 1775; married Betsy Richards.
- 6- 6 JONATHAN, born 11 July, 1779; married Abigail Nurse; (2) Submit Kingsley.
- 7- 7 PATTY, born 28 June, 1782; married Timothy Nurse.

SAMPSON BIXBY on the death of his father became a ward of Benjamin Bixby (132) of Killingly.<sup>2</sup> He is not known to have ever lived in Killingly. The Bixby Ms. records his death 2 April, 1793, and that of his wife in 1785. As his estate was administered upon by his wife in 1789, it is probable that the dates of their respective deaths became transposed in copying some record.

<sup>1</sup> Converse: Converse and Allied Families, p. 816. When Col. Converse published his work in 1905, it was thought Capt. Jonathan Bixby (1861), of Noblestown, was identical with Jonathan (1346). <sup>2</sup> Worcester Probate. <sup>3</sup> Barre Vital Records.

<sup>4</sup> Mary Bixby, widow, David Smith, Polly Bixby, spinster, all of Barre; Samuel Bixby of Hubbardston, Rufus Bixby and Salmon Bixby, sell 3/7 of 17 acres in Barre, part of estate of Samson Bixby, deceased, 18 April, 1799. (*Worcester Deeds*, 166: 436.)

The family record of C. M. Bixby (13436.4K2), of Tacoma, Wash., gives Sampson's death as occurring "about 1790." In October, 1793, the heirs of Sampson join in receipting for their portions to Rufus (13473), and on 1 April, 1793, Jonathan chose Samuel Bullard of Barre his guardian. Bullard was also the guardian of Patty. These facts indicate that the mother died that year. The heirs receipting were David and Sarah Smith, Samuel Bixby, Polly Bixby, and Samuel Bixby as guardian for three heirs (*viz.*: Salmon, Jonathan and Patty). C. M. Bixby gives a Polly among the children, and it would appear that Mary was so known, which would preclude her having married Abraham Sterns of Warwick, 28 May, 1788.

The records of the regiment commanded by Col. Chandler, raised to reënforce the army at Lake George, show that "Samson Bigsby" of Worcester enlisted 24 Sept., and served until 14 Oct., 1756, in company commanded by Capt. Benjamin Flagg, as centinel.<sup>1</sup> He also served in the Revolution, family tradition states, as a musician. His official record given in the Massachusetts compilation of the Revolutionary Rolls is as follows: "Bixbe, Samson, Barre, Capt. Benjamin Nye's company, Col. Nathan Sparhawk's regiment, enlisted 21 Aug., 1777; discharged 25 Aug., 1777; service 10 days: marched to reënforce the army at Bennington under command of Gen. Stark." Other service credited to Sampson of Barre, evidently pertains to Sampson Bixby of Sutton.

## 1348

IV. SOLOMON BIXBY (*Samuel, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 3 March, 1731, at Sutton, Mass.; died probably at Worcester between 1800 and 1807; married 3 April, 1755, at Worcester,<sup>2</sup> ESTHER CLARK, who died probably in 1778 or 1779.<sup>3</sup> He married, second, prior to 1792, Mary, who survived him.

*Children, except the two youngest, born at Barre:* <sup>4</sup>

- 1 ESTHER, born 21 May, 1756. She is said to have been the first white child born in the town of Barre. Probably died unmarried in the lifetime of her father.
- 2 SARAH, born 21 Sept., 1757; died 4 Dec., 1758.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Mass. Archives, 95: 11.

<sup>2</sup> Worcester marriages.

<sup>3</sup> She was living in 1773, as that year she joins in a deed with her husband.

<sup>4</sup> Barre Vital Records.



- 3 SOLOMON, born 7 Jan., 1760. A Solomon Bixby, residence not given, enlisted in a company commanded by Capt. Abijah Burbank, in Col. Jacob Davis' regiment, and marched 30 July, 1780. In this company of militia was also a Samuel Bixby, probably No. 13472. They were discharged 8 Aug., 1780, and Solomon received credit for 12½ days' service.<sup>1</sup> Solomon Bixby (13483) probably died unmarried in the lifetime of his father.
- 4 LYDIA, born 10 Feb., 1762. There is no evidence of her marriage, and she was not living in 1807.
- 5 ASA, born 17 April, 1764. His will, dated 28 June, 1786, was allowed 2 Oct., 1787.<sup>2</sup> Timothy Hastings was executor. The testator mentions his wife Mary, to whom he left land in Orange which his father Solomon Bixby gave him. Also brother Joel Bixby. He married 24 Feb., 1787, at Barre, Mary Hasten.
- 6 BETTY, born 29 July, 1766; married 21 Feb., 1786, at Ward, Mass., Isaac Pratt of Ward (now Auburn).<sup>3</sup> They were living at Vernon, Vt., in 1807.
- 7- 7 JOEL, born 15 Nov., 1768; married Sally Moore.
- 8- 8 KATE, born 14 Oct., 1771; married Nathaniel Stowell.
- 9 MOLLY, baptized 1 Oct., 1775, at Worcester; died prior to 1807, unmarried.
- J-10 HADASSAH, baptized 2 Aug., 1778, at Worcester; married Jonas Rice. She was known as Esther.<sup>4</sup>

SOLOMON BIXBY settled in Rutland District, which later was incorporated as Barre. In 1773 he sold 61 acres there for £300, and his wife Esther joined in the deed. On 29 April, 1779, he sold land in Worcester, describing himself as of Worcester, but no wife appears. As his two youngest children had been baptized in Worcester, the youngest in Aug., 1778, it is probable that his wife Esther died in 1778 or 1779. In April, 1791, he appears as selling land in Brookfield, and in this deed his wife Mary joins. That same year he deeded half a farm in Worcester to Joel Bixby. There are later deeds, the last being of date of 1 Jan., 1803, and in all but the last his wife Mary appears.

Worcester town records show that he was somewhat active in town affairs. He was one of the highway surveyors; frequently on committees concerning the schools; and in 1786 appears to have sympathized with the movement which culminated in Shays' Rebellion.

There has been some doubt whether Solomon (1348) or his son of the same name was the husband of Mary, who in 1794 relinquished her right of dower in the Hutchinson homestead.<sup>5</sup> This

<sup>1</sup> Mass. Rev. Rolls.

<sup>2</sup> Worcester Probate.

<sup>3</sup> Auburn Vital Records, also Worcester.

<sup>4</sup> Worcester Deeds, 202: 623. In this deed the wife of Jonas Rice is described as Hadassah or Esther Rice.

<sup>5</sup> In 1789, Solomon Bixby sued Lot Hutchinson for trespass, said Hutchinson having mortgaged his land and buildings to Bixby for £69, but failed to meet the note when due. (*Suffolk files*,



doubt could probably be dispelled by a careful study of the deeds granted by various members of this family. There is no settlement of the estate of either Solomon in the probate records; but in 1807 Mary Bixby, widow, Joel Bixby, Nathaniel and Katy Stowell, all of Worcester, Jonas and Esther Rice of Worcester, Isaac and Betsy Pratt of Vernon, Vt., heirs at law and only heirs at law of Solomon Bixby late of Worcester, deceased, quitclaim all right in his estate in Worcester or elsewhere. The following month the same parties, except Mary, join in a deed to Daniel Haywood, 2d, and his wife Sally, of 200 acres in Stratton, Vt., which had been conveyed to Solomon Bixby by Sampson Bixby.<sup>1</sup>

Isaac Pratt, the husband of Betsy Bixby, was a Revolutionary soldier, and after the Revolution removed to Guilford, Vt.<sup>2</sup>

## 1351

IV. DANIEL BIXBY (*George, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 17 Feb., 1719, at Salem Village (Danvers), Mass.; died 22 Sept., 1775,<sup>3</sup> at Topsfield, Mass.; married 17 Nov., 1741, at Topsfield, RUTH GOULD, born 8 March, 1718-9, died 14 Sept., 1808,<sup>3</sup> at Topsfield, daughter of Joseph Gould.

*Children, born at Topsfield:*

- 1 ELIZABETH, born 18 Jan., 1743-4; died 18 Sept., 1776, unmarried.
- 2- 2 RUTH, born 30 Sept., 1745; married Ephraim Towne, Jr.
- 3 MARY ANN, born 10 April, 1747; died 4 Sept., 1834, at Topsfield;<sup>3</sup> married there 9 Nov., 1797, Daniel Perkins, "son of John and Elizabeth Perkins," who died of old age, 18 Oct., 1824, aged 75 years, 11 months.
- 4 DANIEL, born 20 April, 1751; died *s.p.* 5 Jan., 1825; married 2 May, 1776, Ruth Prince,<sup>4</sup> born 28 July, 1751, died 3 June, 1834, daughter of Dr. Jonathan and Mary (Porter) Prince of Danvers. His will of 1 Nov., 1811, names wife Ruth, sisters Ruth Towne and Mary Perkins, niece Ruth Wells, daughter of sister Ruth, and heirs at law of nephew Daniel Towne.

DANIEL BIXBY, Sr., and Daniel Bixby, Jr., father and son, were members of the militia company commanded by Capt. Joseph Gould, Col. John Baker's regiment, which marched on the alarm of the 19 April, 1775, and joined the patriot forces assailing the

155,694.) As Mary Bixby releases her right in this estate in 1794, it is clear she was the wife of the elder Solomon; nor does this act indicate that she had any other interest in the Hutchinson property than as wife of Solomon Bixby.

<sup>1</sup> Worcester Deeds, 203:623. In this deed the wife of Jonas Rice is described as Hadassah or Esther Rice.

<sup>2</sup> Information of Mrs. L. C. Heely, N. Y. City.

<sup>3</sup> Topsfield Vital Records.

<sup>4</sup> For a brief genealogy of the Prince family see Essex Institute Hist. Col., 27: 171.

British retreating from Concord. The elder Daniel received credit for three days' service, and the younger for five days' service.<sup>1</sup> Daniel Bixby, Jr., was executor of his grandfather George Bixby's (135) will allowed in 1780. On the 26 March, 1777, he made a settlement with his mother and sisters by which he kept his father's homestead, his mother retaining rights of residence in the eastern end of the house.<sup>2</sup> He bought land in Topsfield in 1788, and at the time of his death was in possession of a comfortable estate out of which he gave his farm to the church. The farm, although long since sold, and the proceeds, about \$5,500, invested as a church fund, is still known as the "Donation Farm."

Daniel Bixby, Jr., was prominent in church affairs and became a deacon.

## 1352

IV. ELIZABETH BIXBY (*George, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 16 Aug., 1722, at Salem Village (Danvers), Mass.; died probably 14 Dec., 1807;<sup>3</sup> married 27 Oct., 1743, at Topsfield,<sup>4</sup> JOHN PERKINS, probably son of John and Mary (Esty) Perkins of Topsfield, and, if so, born 19 Feb., 1719-20.<sup>5</sup> He died at Topsfield, 17 Dec., 1795, aged seventy four years,<sup>4</sup> leaving a will dated 1 Dec., 1794, probated 5 Jan., 1796, in which he names wife Elizabeth, daughter Mary, wife of William Conant, and her son John Conant, unmarried daughter Elizabeth Perkins, and son Daniel Perkins. He gave his entire estate to the last named, subject to the provisions of the will.<sup>6</sup> He is called John Perkins, third, on Topsfield records until the death of his father in 1750.

*Children, born at Topsfield:* <sup>4</sup>

- 1 ELIZABETH PERKINS, baptized 26 Aug., 1744.
- 2 JOHN PERKINS, baptized 8 Feb., 1746-7; died 15 Dec., 1747.
- 3 DANIEL PERKINS, baptized 13 Nov., 1748; married Mary Bixby (13513).
- 4 MARY PERKINS,<sup>7</sup> baptized 3 Feb., 1751; died 28 Nov., 1834, "aged eighty

<sup>1</sup> Massachusetts Revolutionary Rolls.

<sup>2</sup> Essex Deeds, 135: 18. In May, 1751, George Bixby (135) granted to his son Daniel (1351) one half his house, barn, cider-mill, etc., 17 acres pasture in Boxford bought of Eleazer Lake, also 20 acres on the northwest side of the road from the river bridge to Middleton, being the same he had purchased of Israel Towne in 1740. (*Essex Deeds*, 95: 262.)

<sup>3</sup> Topsfield Vital Records. Elizabeth Perkins, widow, died 14 Dec., 1807, aged eighty six years.

<sup>4</sup> Topsfield Vital Records.

<sup>5</sup> Perkins Genealogy, II, 15, where nothing further is found concerning him.

<sup>6</sup> Essex Probate, 364: 268.

<sup>7</sup> After the death of John Perkins, 22 June, 1750, his son was probably styled "junior;" hitherto he had been called "third." During the period John Perkins, third, is so styled, John Perkins who

five years," at Ipswich;<sup>1</sup> married (intention 13 March, 1768) William Conant, Jr., born 3 Sept., 1747, at Ipswich, died 8 May, 1826.

Children:

1. John Conant, born 1770; died young.
  2. William Conant, born 11 July, 1772.
  3. Daniel Conant, born 11 Jan., 1774.
  4. John Conant, born Aug., 1776.
  5. Joseph Conant, born 4 June, 1782 (or 1790?).<sup>2</sup>
- 5 JOHN PERKINS, baptized 28 Nov., 1756; died 17 April, 1788.

## 1353

IV. BENJAMIN BIXBY (*George, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 13 Nov., 1724, at Salem Village (Danvers), Mass.; died 13 Feb., 1790, at Salem, N. H.; married 20 March, 1745-6, at Topsfield, ANNE BRADSTREET,<sup>3</sup> born there 23 Nov., 1724, died 10 Nov., 1808, at Warren, N. H., daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Clark) Bradstreet.

*Children, born at Topsfield:*<sup>3</sup>

- 1- 1 BENJAMIN, born 2 Jan., 1747-8; baptized 4 Jan., 1747-8, "son of Benjamin"; married Peggy Peabody.
- 2 AN INFANT, died 6 March, 1748 (1748-9).<sup>4</sup>
- 3 ANNE, born 9 July, 1751.
- 4 SARAH, born 20 May, 1753.
- 5- 5 DUDLEY, born 25 Feb., 1756; married Elizabeth Pingry.
- 6 ENOS, born 4 June, 1758; died 4 Sept., 1758.
- 7 ASA, born 22 Nov., 1759; "died in the army." His military record is as follows: enlisted 5 Dec., 1776, and served three months, eleven days in company commanded by Capt. Samuel McConnell, and his name also appears in a list of men raised by Col. Daniel Moor out of his regiment on requisition of 19 Dec., 1776. Col. Daniel Gilman commanded the regiment in which he served. Enlisted out of Col. Bartlett's regiment of militia in 1777, probably the same enlistment entered as April, 1777, for three years. As of Salem, he was mustered 6 May, 1777, in Capt. Robertson's company, Col. Nathan Hale's regiment. His name appears in the roll of the third company in Col. George Reid's regiment, in list of men who served in 1777, 1778, 1779.<sup>5</sup>

had wife Jemima was called John Perkins, Jr. This latter John died 7 Feb., 1780. There are recorded the baptisms of the following children to John Perkins, Jr., after 1750 (of whom there is little doubt Mary was that Mary, daughter of John and Elizabeth, as her age at death agrees approximately with her baptismal record), *viz.*: Mary, baptized 3 Feb., 1751, and John, baptized 28 Nov., 1756 (perhaps the John Perkins, Jr., who died 17 April, 1788, aged thirty one years). John Perkins, the father of John Perkins, third, was son of Elisha (*Thomas, John*). John Perkins, Jr., was son of Timothy (*Thomas, John*). As there were two distinct families of this name in Topsfield, and many bearing the name John, there is difficulty in identification. John Perkins of Ipswich was born at Hillmorton, Warwickshire, England, and there married Judith, daughter of Michael Gater, and emigrated in 1631 to New England. See Notes on Perkins Families in England (1894).

<sup>1</sup> Ipswich Vital Records.

<sup>2</sup> Conant Genealogy, p. 234.

<sup>3</sup> Topsfield Vital Records.

<sup>4</sup> The death of this child is found on the church records, as "the youngest child" of Benjamin and Ann.

<sup>5</sup> N. H. Rev. Rolls.

- 8- 8 GEORGE, born 7 May, 1762, "on Friday, about nine in the morning"; married Sarah Annis.  
 9- 9 RACHEL, born 18 Oct., 1764; married William Huse Stevens; (2) ——— Murray.

BENJAMIN BIXBY lived at Topsfield, Mass., and Salem, N. H. There is extant a book, described on the title page as a "small Book of Accounts." On the cover is written, "Benjamin Bixby, His Book, bought in the year 1736-7." A portion of the book is used for a family record. In it he wrote, "June 9, 1772 I removed from Topsfield to Salem in Hamshier with my wife and five children Anne, Sarah, Asa, George and Rachel. Leaving two sons behind Benja and Dudley."

On the 4 May, 1751, George Bixby granted land to his son Daniel; and also to his son Benjamin, as his share of his estate, one half of fifty seven acres he had purchased of Jacob Redington in 1750, with buildings upon it, except the schoolhouse.<sup>1</sup> And 14 May, 1772, George and Benjamin Bixby, both of Topsfield, sell to Samuel Cummings of Topsfield, for £469, an estate in Topsfield. Sarah and Anne Bixby, wives of George and Benjamin, join in the deed, which is witnessed by Daniel Bixby, Sr., and Daniel Bixby, Jr.<sup>2</sup> In 1768 Benjamin purchased land in Monadnock No. 1 (now Rindge, N. H.), but sold out the following year.<sup>3</sup> He may have entertained the thought of removing there.

Mrs. Anne (Bradstreet) Bixby is buried at Warren, N. H. Her grave and those of her son George, with his wife Sarah, and their children, who died in youth, are marked by a tall marble stone erected by Joseph Bixby, son of George Bixby. She was a descendant of Gov. Thomas Dudley and of Gov. Simon Bradstreet. Governor Dudley, who was born in England in 1576, and who died 31 July, 1653, was deputy-governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony thirteen years, and governor four years. He was one of Winthrop's company, sailing with him on the Arbella in 1630, accompanied by his wife, Dorothy Yorke,<sup>4</sup> and their chil-

<sup>1</sup> Essex Deeds, 95: 263.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, 132: 153.

<sup>3</sup> New Hampshire Deeds.

<sup>4</sup> The parentage and ancestry of Gov. Thomas Dudley has long been a subject of investigation and speculation. Cotton Mather described the governor as the "only son of captain Roger Dudley," who had been slain in the wars. Although at one time it was supposed that this statement of Mather was inaccurate, it has since been fully confirmed, through the investigations of Miss Mary K. Talcott. The late Henry F. Waters discovered the parentage of Dorothy Yorke, and the clues obtained by him have been followed by Miss Talcott with much success.

Gov. Dudley was the son of Roger Dudley by his wife Susanna, the daughter of Thomas Thorne or Dorne and Mary Purefoy. The connection of Roger Dudley with the important family of



dren.<sup>1</sup> His daughter Anne, born about 1612, became wife of Simon Bradstreet, who was one of the wisest of the Massachusetts Bay governors. She died 16 Sept., 1672, leaving a reputation as a woman of unusual literary powers. She was the first poetess of New England, and the publication of her poems earned for her the title of the "tenth Muse lately sprung up in America." John, the fourth son of Gov. Simon and Anne (Dudley) Bradstreet, married, 22 July, 1652, at Andover, Sarah, daughter of Rev. William Perkins, and their son Samuel Bradstreet, born 4 Aug., 1699, at Andover, married Sarah Clark, by whom he had: Anne, born 23 Oct., 1724, married Benjamin Bixby; Sarah born 4 Feb., 1726-7; Samuel, born 8 May, 1729 (whose death is recorded by Benjamin Bixby as follows: "Brother Samuel Bradstreet, died July 7, 1777 in the 49th year of his age"); Elijah, born 8 Aug., 1731; Eunice, born 15 April, 1733; Asa, born 20 April, 1736.

## 1354

IV. SARAH BIXBY (*George, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 2 Feb., 1726-7, at Salem Village, (Danvers) Mass.; died 19 Feb., 1815, at Rockingham, Vt.; married 30 Nov., 1749, at Topsfield, Mass.,<sup>2</sup> DANIEL LAKE, born 22 June, 1726, at Topsfield, baptized 6 July, 1729, died 26 Sept., 1810, at Rockingham, son of Eliezer and Lydia (Ford) Lake.<sup>3</sup>

*Children:*<sup>4</sup>

I GEORGE LAKE, born 7 Nov., 1750. Named in his grandfather George Bixby's will.

Dudley, to which belonged John, Duke of Northumberland, and Robert, Earl of Leicester, is still somewhat of a mystery. That the connection existed is hardly to be doubted, taking into consideration the many circumstances attending Gov. Thomas Dudley's education and employment prior to his migration to New England. He was baptized 12 Oct., 1576, at Yardley Hastings, Northamptonshire, and died 31 July, 1653. His wife Dorothy died 27 Dec., 1643, at Roxbury. Her father, Edmond Yorke of Cotton End, Northamptonshire, in his will, dated 18 Nov., 1614, names his three grandchildren, Samuel Dudley, Abigail Greene, and Anne Dudley. This latter was the poetess, who in one of her poems claims kinship with Sir Philip Sidney. The Yokes were apparently of excellent lineage. See Waters' Gleanings, 1: 665; N. E. Historical Genealogical Register, Oct., 1912; Browning: Americans of Royal Descent (latest editions).

<sup>1</sup> Colonial Papers, British State Papers, p. 112.

<sup>2</sup> Topsfield Vital Records.

<sup>3</sup> Eliezer Lake was son of Henry and Priscilla (Wiles) Lake, and was born 9 July, 1686, at Topsfield. Eliezer Lake married (2) 12 Jan., 1743-4, Mary Bixby (11-6). Children of Eliezer and Lydia (Ford) Lake: Abigail, born 14 Aug., 1719. Daniel, born 22 June, 1726, baptized 6 July, 1729; married Sarah Bixby (1354). Eliezer, born 12 Sept., 1724; married 2 April, 1745, Sarah Perkins. Lydia, born 4 Nov., 1709, baptized Aug., 1717. Priscilla, born 11 Oct., 1715, baptized Aug., 1717; married 3 Sept., 1733, Amos Robinson of Lunenburg.

<sup>4</sup> The record of this family was received from Mrs. Mary E. Guthrie of Byfield, Mass. The first seven children appear in the Topsfield Vital Records.



- 2 DANIEL LAKE, born 24 Jan., 1754; married Hepsibeth Cutter.
- 3 ENOS LAKE, born 26 Oct., 1756, at Topsfield; died 5 Aug., 1841, at Rindge, N. H.; married there 14 Dec., 1777, Prudence Page, born 9 March, 1760, at Groton, Mass., died 16 Sept., 1794, at Rindge, daughter of Joseph and Abigail (Shedd) Page. He married (2) Abigail Hudson.  
Children, all by first marriage:
  1. Prudence Lake, born 24 Oct., 1778; died 19 July, 1853, at Newburyport, Mass.; married Hezekiah Crane.
  2. Enos Lake, born 29 Oct., 1779; died 27 Sept., 1844, at Boxford, Mass.
  3. David Lake, born 30 Sept., 1781.<sup>1</sup>
  4. Mehitabel Lake, born 9 Nov., 1783; died 27 April, 1800.
  5. Abigail Lake, born 23 Feb., 1787; died 28 March, 1835, at Topsfield; married 25 May, 1809, Daniel Towne.
  6. Sewall Lake, born 26 Dec., 1788; died 27 Aug., 1862, at Bucksport, Me.; married 19 June, 1811, Hannah Peabody.
  7. Cynthia Lake, born 21 Aug., 1790; married Elijah S. Hill.
  8. Rebekah Lake, born 14 Aug., 1792; died 14 March, 1894, at Newport Centre, Vt.; married 24 Oct., 1813, at Springfield, Vt., Stephen Blanchard. Children: *Sarah Lake Blanchard*, born 14 Aug., 1814; married Edmund Hardy. *Jonathan Enos Blanchard*, born 26 Dec., 1816; died 3 Dec., 1827. *Silas Robinson Blanchard*, born 29 May, 1819; married Olive Collins. *Mary Abigail Blanchard*, born 28 June, 1824; married 25 Nov., 1846, John Colburn.<sup>2</sup> *Cynthia Elizabeth Blanchard*, born 4 May, 1826; married George L. Brown; (2) John Farnham. *Jonathan Enos Blanchard*, born 20 Sept., 1827; died 7 Aug., 1830. *Eleanor Lovette Blanchard*, born 18 July, 1830; married Welby Hammond; (2) Hubbard Grey.
  9. Silas Lake, born 30 Aug., 1794; died 15 Sept., 1873; married Phebe Batchelder.
  10. Sally Lake, twin with Silas, died March, 1853; married Ezra Robinson; (2) Jonathan Wood; (3) Amos Stearns; (4) 19 May, 1842, Josiah Hartwell.
- 4 HENRY LAKE, born 19 Sept., 1759; married Prudence.
- 5 JONATHAN LAKE, born 18 March, 1761, at Topsfield; died 20 May, 1846, at Springfield, Vt.;<sup>3</sup> married 8 March, 1786, Hannah Hale, born 10 June, 1769, at Jaffrey, N. H., died 17 Oct., 1834, at Springfield, Vt., daughter of Col. Enoch and Abigail (Stanley) Hale of Rindge and Walpole, N. H.; married (2) Lucy (Hale) Wetherbee, born 29 April, 1766, died 24 Dec., 1857, a sister of his first wife and widow of Hezekiah Wetherbee of Grafton, Vt.  
Jonathan Lake enlisted in the Revolutionary army at the age of 17 years, and served until 1781. He was a farmer; a resident of Rindge, N. H., and of Chester and Springfield, Vt.  
Children:
  1. Daniel Lake, born 19 Aug., 1786; died 28 May, 1849; married Sarah Beard.
  2. Nathan Lake, born 20 July, 1788; died 26 March, 1857; married Sarah Fletcher.
  3. Jonathan Lake, born 24 Aug., 1790; died 5 Aug., 1863; married Charlotte Litchfield.
  4. Sherburne Lake, born 31 May, 1792; died 7 July, 1795.
  5. William Lake, born 28 Aug., 1794; died 21 June, 1804.

<sup>1</sup> Said to have died 16 Sept., 1794, and to have married Anna Gould.

<sup>2</sup> Child: Mary E. Colburn, married 28 Dec., 1881, Thomas Guthrie.

<sup>3</sup> Howell: Descendants of Thomas Hale of Watton, Eng., and Newbury, Mass., p. 315.

6. Sherburne Lake, born 7 July, 1797; died 30 Nov., 1868; married Abigail Beard.
7. Enoch Lake, born 7 Aug., 1799; married Charlotte Brackett.
8. Hannah Lake, born 21 March, 1802; married Leonard Walker.
9. William Lake, born 30 June, 1806; died 1 Sept., 1831.
10. Elizabeth Lake, born 3 Aug., 1808; married Jacob Garland; (2) Daniel Latham Holbrook; (3) Daniel Magoon.
- 6 NATHAN LAKE, born 17 Aug., 1764; drowned in Bay of Biscay, 18 July, 1792.
- 7 SARAH LAKE, born 17 March, 1767, baptized 22 March, 1767.
- 8 MARY B. LAKE, born 20 Feb., 1770; died 8 Aug., 1784.

The Revolutionary record of this family is interesting. Daniel Lake, his sons, Daniel, Henry, Jonathan, and Enos, were all Revolutionary soldiers. Enos was a survivor of the Battle of Bunker Hill and as such participated in the dedication of Bunker Hill monument in 1825. He was a pensioner.

## 1362

IV. AMOS BIXBY (*Nathan, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 13 Nov., 1722, at Topsfield, Mass.; died 4 Aug., 1811, at Thompson, Conn.; married 18 Jan., 1750,<sup>1</sup> at Thompson, ELIZABETH SABIN who died 11 July, 1806.

*Children, born at Thompson:*<sup>1</sup>

- 1 MARY, born 17 Oct., 1750; married 18 Jan., 1776, Levi Thompson, and had descendants living in 1798, at which time she was deceased.
- 2-2 DAVID, baptized 18 Feb., 1753; married Sally or Katherine Aldrich.
- 3-3 ASA, baptized 13 April, 1755; married Ruth.
- 4-4 ELIZABETH, baptized 15 April, 1759; married 21 April, 1785,<sup>1</sup> David Grow.
- 5-5 DARIUS, born 4 Sept., 1761; baptized 1 Nov., 1761; married Rachel Smith.
- 6 RICHARD, baptized 17 April, 1765; died *s.p.*, prior to 1798.

AMOS BIXBY made his will 22 Sept., 1798. It was allowed 3 Sept., 1811. He named his wife Elizabeth, heirs of deceased daughter Mary Thompson, and of son Asa Bixby, other children, Elizabeth Grow, David Bixby, Darius Bixby.<sup>2</sup> Moses Bixby (138M), executor of the estate, sold certain real estate to Noadiah Bixby (13653.1). There is no distribution of the estate on file.

In 1737 six men, one of whom was Amos Bixby, asked for a new road to go to meeting.<sup>3</sup> Amos (1362) was then in his sixteenth year, but as eldest son may have signed the petition.<sup>3</sup> At a town meeting held 22 Nov. 1764, Amos Bixby, Capt. Converse, and Richard Blossie were chosen tythingmen.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Thompson church records.

<sup>2</sup> Pomfret Probate.

<sup>3</sup> Larned: History of Windham County.

<sup>4</sup> Killingly town records.

## 1363

IV. ABIJAH BIXBY (*Nathan, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 8 Sept., 1725, at Topsfield, Mass.; died 24 May, 1785, at Stafford, Conn.,<sup>1</sup> and his widow Anna had administration on his estate 4 July, 1785.<sup>2</sup> He married 23 Jan., 1752,<sup>3</sup> at Thompson, Conn., ANNA<sup>4</sup> CORBIN, who died 3 Nov., 1786,<sup>1</sup> at Stafford. Appraisal of her estate was made 12 Feb., 1787,<sup>2</sup> when an order was made for distribution of their father's estate to eldest son of Rogers Bixby, and to daughters: Abigail wife of Samuel Blodgett, Martha late wife of John Gardner, deceased, Esther wife of James Moore, Alice wife of Joseph Moore, Desire Bixby, and Anna wife of Nathan Wood.

*Children:*

- I- 1 ABIGAIL, born 25 Sept., 1752, baptized 22 Nov., 1752;<sup>3</sup> married Samuel Blodgett.
- 2- 2 ANNA, born 20 Aug., 1756, "in Stafford";<sup>5</sup> married Nathan Wood. She is probably the Anna Bixby, Jr., who was admitted to communion with the Stafford Church, 23 March, 1777.<sup>6</sup>
  - 3 MARTHA, baptized 1 Oct., 1758;<sup>3</sup> married 4 Jan., 1781,<sup>1</sup> John Gardner of Monson, Mass., who died prior to 4 May, 1789.<sup>2</sup>
  - 4 KEZIAH, born 1760; died 24 Dec., 1776, aged sixteen years, one and one half months.<sup>6</sup>
- 5- 5 ESTHER, baptized 23 Jan., 1763;<sup>3</sup> married James Moore.
  - 6 An infant, died 22 Aug., 1769, aged a few hours.<sup>6</sup>
  - 7 An infant, died 9 July, 1770, aged a few hours.<sup>6</sup>
- 8- 8 ROGERS, born 5 Nov., 1772;<sup>1</sup> baptized 7 Nov., 1772;<sup>6</sup> married Lucy Fitzgerald.
  - 9 A daughter, died Feb., 1788, "aged about thirteen years."<sup>6</sup>
- 10 DESIRE, born 27 Jan., 1777;<sup>1</sup> baptized 3 March, 1777.<sup>6</sup>
- K-11 ALICE,<sup>2</sup> married Joseph Moore.

ABIJAH BIXBY sold part of the farm on which he lived in Killingly, Conn., 2 Aug., 1755, to Samuel Watson. He had sold in the preceding year sixty acres of meadow to Archelaus Towne, and in 1756 sold four acres more to Towne. Ann Bixby, probably his

<sup>1</sup> Stafford town records.

<sup>2</sup> Stafford Probate, 3: 81, 148, 334. The inventory of Abijah's estate disclosed £104.

<sup>3</sup> Thompson church records.

<sup>4</sup> It is said that the Stafford church records record her death as "Martha, relict of Mr. Abijah Bixby." If so, it was a clerical error, as the probate records describe his widow as Anna. Anna, wife of Abijah Bixby, was admitted to the church at Thompson, Conn., 1760. North Stafford church records note the death of Mrs. Abigail Bixby, 8 Sept., 1817, "aged ninety nine years." She is yet to be identified.

<sup>5</sup> Bixby Ms.

<sup>6</sup> Stafford church records.

wife, witnesses the last mentioned deed, as well as a deed to Solomon Bixby of three acres, 13 April, 1761.<sup>1</sup>

He removed to Tolland, Conn., but 8 April, 1769, as of that place, purchased for £72, forty nine and one half acres in Stafford, on which was a house and barn, bounding on land of Samuel Green.<sup>2</sup>

In 1785, only ten days before his death, he purchased seventeen and three quarters acres in Stafford.

He was admitted a freeman of Stafford, 16 Sept., 1777, and that day took the oath of fidelity appointed by the state.<sup>3</sup>

### 1365

IV. NATHAN BIXBY (*Nathan, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 18 Aug., 1730, at Topsfield, Mass.; died probably early in 1807; married 21 April, 1755, at Thompson, Conn., MARY BURRELL,<sup>4</sup> at which time he was styled "junior." He married, second, 16 Jan., 1784, widow HANNAH MARSH.<sup>4</sup>

*Children, born at Thompson:*

- 1- 1 JEMIMA, born 2 May, 1756; married Robert Prince.
- 2 MARY, born 27 Dec., 1758; married Hiram Cady, and removed to South Corinth, N. Y.
- 3- 3 JESSE, born 27 Dec., 1758; baptized 21 Jan., 1759;<sup>4</sup> married Sybil Johnson.
- 4 AARON, baptized 1 June, 1760;<sup>4</sup> died young.
- 5- 5 AARON, born 23 or 24 Dec., 1761; baptized 31 Jan., 1762; married Mary Prince.
- 6 MOLLY, (Sally), born 4 Aug., baptized 12 Aug., 1764,<sup>4</sup> married 2 Sept., 1784, James Tourtellott.<sup>4</sup> They moved to Greenfield, N. Y., between 1795 and 1799, conveying their effects in an ox-team. Children, ten in number.
- 7- 7 JOSHUA, born 6 April, baptized 12 April, 1767;<sup>4</sup> married Sally Tourtelott.

NATHAN BIXBY served sixteen days in the company commanded by Capt. Carpenter, in 1757, being credited to Woodstock.<sup>5</sup> Administration was granted on his estate to his son Jesse Bixby, 7 April, 1807,<sup>6</sup> and an inventory was filed the same day.

<sup>1</sup> Killingly Deeds, 6: 16, 68; 131, 8: 22.

<sup>2</sup> Stafford Deeds, 4: 66; 7: 6, 156.

<sup>3</sup> Stafford town records.

<sup>4</sup> Thompson church records. The birth of Aaron, baptized 1760, is not found on town records, where also the years of birth of Jesse and Joshua are given one year later than the church record, and Molly is recorded as Sally. Mary Burrell, wife of Nathan Bixby, may have been daughter of John and Hannah Burrill who removed to Killingly from Gloucester, Mass. The second wife of Nathan, according to a record sent by Mr. Coley, was Hannah Martin, but the church record has been followed in the text.

<sup>5</sup> French War Rolls, printed in Conn. Hist. Soc. Coll. 8: 242. Carpenter's company was not exclusively of Woodstock, and it is not probable that Nathan Bixby at that time was of Woodstock.

<sup>6</sup> Pomfret Probate.



## 1366

IV. SOLOMON BIXBY (*Nathan, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 26 Oct., 1732, at Topsfield, Mass.; died 29 Jan., 1813, at Stafford, Conn.; married 7 April, 1754,<sup>1</sup> at Thompson, Conn., ABIGAIL NEWELL, who died 22 Dec., 1816, aged 86 years, at Stafford.

*Children, three youngest born at Sturbridge, Mass.:<sup>2</sup>*

- 1- 1 ANNA, born 14 Nov., 1754, at Killingly, Conn.; married Isaac Clark.
- 2- 2 ICHABOD, born 9 Jan., 1757, at Killingly; married Lydia Orcutt.
- 3 ABIGAIL, baptized 12 Oct., 1760,<sup>1</sup> at Thompson; died in infancy.
- 4- 4 ABIGAIL, baptized 1 Nov., 1761,<sup>1</sup> at Thompson; married William Patten.
- 5- 5 SOLOMON, baptized 6 May, 1764,<sup>1</sup> at Thompson; married Lucy Clarke.
- 6 SARAH, born 27 June, 1766.
- 7 ABIJAH, born 26 Jan., 1768; died without issue, prior to 1832, leaving a widow Sarah. He was admitted a freeman of Stafford in 1797.<sup>3</sup> He was an inn holder in Shutesbury, Mass., 1803-1808 (*Records of Court of General Sessions at Northfield*), and lived in South Brimfield when he bought a farm of 95 acres in Shutesbury in 1802, which he sold Feb., 1810. In that year his wife was Sarah. In these deeds he is described as a wheelwright. (*Deeds*, 16:595; 27:514.) He removed to Herkimer Co., N. Y., as early as 1814, and resided in Warren in 1825.<sup>4</sup>
- 8 NATHAN, born 22 April, 1770.

SOLOMON BIXBY of Sturbridge,<sup>5</sup> purchased of John Pike lot 16 first division in Sturbridge, in 1767. This lot was owned by Isaac Newell of Lebanon, Conn., who lived in Thompson Parish, Killingly, when he purchased the lot (1742). When it passed from Newell to Pike is not of record, but in 1760 it was still owned by Newell, who also held lot 11 adjoining, and on which his sister Sarah, wife of Aaron Martin, settled. In 1773 Solomon Bixby exchanged this property with another Isaac Newell, son of Isaac Newell, the first town clerk of Sturbridge. The deed mentions buildings on the land, and it is probable that Bixby had erected a dwelling. This house remained in the Newell family during four generations. The farm taken by Solomon Bixby in exchange was situated near the outlet of Walker Pond, and the old cellar hole was lately to be seen showing where the house had stood.

In 1776 Solomon Bixby and wife Abigail sold land in Sturbridge,

<sup>1</sup> Thompson church records.

<sup>2</sup> Sturbridge, Mass., Vital Records. According to the town clerk, Abijah was born 26 June, and Nathan 27 April.

<sup>3</sup> Stafford records.

<sup>4</sup> Letter of clerk of Herkimer Co., N. Y.

<sup>5</sup> Solomon Bixby of Worcester purchased land in Rutland, of Enos Heffron, in 1755, and additional land there of Joseph Clarke in 1758.



and four years later, 10 April, 1780, were admitted to the church at Stafford. Solomon Bixby was made freeman of Stafford in 1780.<sup>1</sup>

4 June, 1781, Solomon Bixby and Benjamin Ellis protest against the election of the captain of the train band or company; it appears that they were the sole objectors.<sup>2</sup> In 1784 Silas Blodgett sold to Ichabod Bixby 12 acres between the meeting-house green and land of Solomon Bixby on the north.

In 1793 Solomon sold to Abijah his farm in West Stafford where Solomon lived near the meeting-house. In 1797 he sells 15 acres to Abijah, this time describing him as his son and of Stafford.<sup>3</sup> He was an original member of the church formerly the Second Church of Christ at Stafford.

The inscription on his tombstone there reads, "In memory of Mr. Solomon Bixby, who died Jan. 29, 1813. He was a firm supporter of the Christian religion and a friend of his country and of mankind."

His son Ichabod was admitted a freeman, 17 April, 1782.<sup>1</sup> He bought of Silas Blagget a farm of 75 acres in the Second or West Parish, north of the meeting-house, 26 Nov., 1774, he being described as of Sturbridge, Mass.<sup>3</sup>

### 138J

IV. JACOB BIXBY (*Jacob, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 29 Nov., 1758, at Thompson, Conn.; died there 1 Feb., 1806; married 11 May, 1779, EUNICE LEAVENS, born 3 Aug., 1759, at Thompson, died there 25 Aug., 1842;<sup>4</sup> daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Johnson) Leavens.<sup>5</sup> She was a descendant of John Leavens of Roxbury in 1632. Administration on the estate of Jacob Bixby was granted to his son Samuel; and the widow's dower was set off 3 Feb., 1807. After payment of debts, there remained practically nothing for the children.<sup>6</sup> Jacob Bixby was drafted into Capt. Green's company soon after his marriage, but his place was taken by his brother Moses Bixby (*q. v.*).

<sup>1</sup> Stafford records.

<sup>2</sup> Conn. State Papers, Militia, 2nd series, 2812: 13.

<sup>3</sup> Stafford Deeds, 6: 158; 7: 208, 704; 5: 186.

<sup>4</sup> Information of Albert J. Bixby (138J8-5), North Dana, Mass.

<sup>5</sup> Miss Ellen D. Larned of Thompson, Conn., to whom for much help in the collection of statistics regarding the Windham County families, thanks is due.

<sup>6</sup> Pomfret Probate.

*Children, born at Thompson:*

- 1- 1 SAMUEL, born 11 June, 1780; married Almira Bates.
- 2 UZZIEL, born 22 June, 1786; died 2 June 1795.
- 3 ERASTUS, born 8 June, 1789; died 7 June, 1795.
- 4- 4 JOHNSON, born 25 April, 1793; married Orinda Graves.
- 5- 5 ALICE, born 25 Sept., 1796 or 21 Sept., 1797; married Ariel Converse.
- 6 A SON, twin with Alice, died unnamed.
- 7- 7 UZZIEL, born 5 May, 1801; married Naomi Howland.
- 8- 8 ERASTUS, twin with Uzziel; married Susan Durfey.

## 138L

IV. DANIEL BIXBY (*Jacob, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 25 Sept., 1762, at Thompson, Conn.; died 6 Nov., 1829, at Townshend, Vt., killed by a fall in a barn;<sup>1</sup> married 30 Oct., 1783, at Thompson,<sup>2</sup> SARAH TOWNE, baptized 1761,<sup>3</sup> daughter of Archelaus and Sarah (Brown) Towne (1392).

Daniel Bixby removed to Guilford, Vt., in 1788, and later to Townshend, where he was deacon in the church.

*Children:*

- 1- 1 ARCHELAUS, born 21 Dec., 1784,<sup>1</sup> at Thompson; married Parmelia Blandin; (2) Susan Dunton.
- 2 SALLY, baptized 29 April, 1787, at Thompson;<sup>2</sup> married Isaac Wellman<sup>4</sup> Removed to Wyoming Co., N. Y. Descendants are living.
- 3- 3 JOHN, born 5 Feb., 1788, at Townshend,<sup>5</sup> baptized 7 May, 1789, at Thompson;<sup>2</sup> married Rebecca Wellman.
- 4 NANCY, married Eliphalet Skinner. They settled at Wyoming Co., N. Y.
- 5 LYDIA, married Samuel Frost of Boston. They settled in Wyoming Co., N. Y.
- 6 DANIEL.
- 7 HANNAH, married 18 Jan., 1825, Silas M. Flag of Heath.<sup>1</sup>

## 138M

IV. MOSES BIXBY (*Jacob, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 18 April, 1765, at Thompson, Conn.; died there 22 June, 1835; married 3 Jan., 1788, at Thompson, MARY GREENE, born 23 Jan., 1768, at Quaddick in Thompson, died 24 June, 1852, daughter of Capt. John and Abilene (Guile) Greene.

<sup>1</sup> Information of Judson Bixby Derry (138L1.2-2), Putney, Vt.

<sup>2</sup> Thompson church records.

<sup>3</sup> Information of Miss Ellen D. Larned of Thompson, Conn.

<sup>4</sup> For origin of the Wellman family, see Joshua Hewes, *A New England Pioneer*, etc., by Eben Putnam, Appendix.

<sup>5</sup> Bixby Ms., but it is probable that he was born at Thompson.

*Children, born at Thompson:*

1- 1 LEMUEL, born 17 Aug., 1794;<sup>1</sup> married Lois Rhodes.

2- 2 HALSEY, born 14 Feb., 1801; married Esther Tyler; (2) Phebe Green.

MOSES BIXBY was for many years a deacon in the Congregational church at Thompson. Aaron Bixby (13654) was also deacon. The latter was chosen in 1805, and served for twenty five years. "The contemporary services of these kinsmen, deacons Aaron and Moses Bixby, with their appropriate names, made a deep impression upon the youth of the period. Their venerable appearance was enhanced by the elongation of what was known as the 'Bixby nose,' which suggested the familiar couplet.

'Says Aaron to Moses, let's cut off our noses,

Says Moses to Aaron, 'tis the custom to wear 'em.'

The rhyme certainly originated in Thompson, Conn."<sup>2</sup>

Moses and Aaron Bixby, although of different generations were nearly of the same age. Jacob Bixby married the second time twelve years after the loss of his first wife and children by her and reared a family in his old age who were contemporaries with his nephews and nieces.

Moses Bixby suffered financial reverse in 1829 and removed to Webster, Mass., where he lived as late as 1832, when he applied for a pension on account of his Revolutionary war services. From his declaration we learn that he was born in Thompson in 1765, as recorded in his mother's bible, then in his possession, and always lived in Thompson until removal to Webster in 1830.

His first service in the army was as substitute for his brother Jacob, who had been drafted to serve in the company commanded by Capt. John Green, in June, 1779, "before the hard winter." He enlisted for eight months, and was mustered at Windham by Major or Col. Ripley, and was marched to the North River opposite West Point, to a place called "Robinson Patten," and there joined the company commanded by Capt. John Buell in Durkee's or Bradley's regiment.

Thence the command proceeded to Bearskin Ridge, five miles beyond Morristown, and helped build barracks. While at Bearskin Ridge the army was short of provisions. Bixby was in the 4th

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Bixby reported baptized 28 Sept., 1794, is evidently a misreading for Lemuel.

<sup>2</sup> Larned: History of Windham Co., Conn.

Connecticut regiment. He was discharged 15 Jan., 1780, and reached home on the 28th. Crossing at Kingsbridge Ferry he froze his feet, which caused him much suffering, and made him lame.

In Sept., 1781, the British captured Fort Griswold at Groton and that week Bixby was drafted into Capt. Benjamin Cargill's company in Col. McClellan's regiment. He served one month as a private at Groton, working in and about the fort, helping repair it. He saw the blood on the ground shed at the massacre of the defenders. He also served one month at Tower Hill, and at Greenwich, R. I., in a company of militia commanded by Capt. Peter Keith, of which Elihu Lawrence was lieutenant, in Major Cady's command, and was dismissed at Tower Hill.

In his second declaration made in 1833, still a resident of Webster, he states he had resided in Connecticut until within eight years past, and was 68 years of age, and that when he was in camp at Morristown he saw Gen. Washington and his guard. When as a recruit he marched from Windham to North River, there were two deserters from the army taken along.

His discharge from the army, dated 16 Jan., 1780, is filed with the papers in the case at the Pension office.

The Comptroller of Connecticut certified that Moses Bixby served in the 4th Conn. Regt., commanded by Col. Durkee, from 16 Aug. to 15 Jan., 1780, and that he was one of the eight months' men and was from Killingly. His service is also credited as 4 months (129 days) in Bradley's regiment, and under Cargill and Keith as claimed.

Zebedeck Buck of Thompson, aged 74 in 1833, deposed that he was a soldier in the Revolution and was at Groton one month after it was taken by the British, saw the blood there, and helped repair the fort. He was shown the spot where Col. Ledyard was killed. "Moses Bixby, now of Webster, was a soldier with me." In a scuffle with Buck, Bixby "tore my rifle frock." He also saw Bixby at Tower Hill. Daniel Whitmore was "our drummer, and the boys traded a pistol and he fired it off and it knocked him down, and it left him with a scar on his face as long as he lived."

He was allowed a pension. After his death, his widow Molly applied for a pension, stating that her husband died 22 Jan., 1835, and she had not remarried. Daniel Daw, the settled minister at



Thompson, supplied a certificate, to the effect that Moses Bixby and Molly Green were married 3 Jan., 1788. Halsey Bixby, a son, deposed in 1838 that he was 37 years old, that his father died at his house 22 Jan., 1835, and that his mother had lived part of the time since with him. Aaron Bixby of Thompson deposed in 1838 that he was 76 years of age, that Moses Bixby was his cousin, a few years younger than himself, that he had always lived near him, and, although never out with him as a soldier in the Revolution, he knew that Moses had served in the army.

The widow was allowed a pension,<sup>1</sup> and was living in Thompson in 1848, aged 80 years. She signed her name Molly or Mary.

138N

IV. SAMUEL BIXBY (*Jacob, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 5 May, 1767, at Thompson, Conn.; died 11 Oct., 1849; married 28 Feb., 1788, at Thompson, ESTHER ELITHORPE, born 21 Sept., 1765, died 25 Sept., 1831, daughter of Nathaniel<sup>2</sup> and Jemima (Younglove) Elithorpe.<sup>3</sup> Both the father and grandfather, Henry Elithorpe, of Esther (Elithorpe) Bixby served in the French and Indian Wars.<sup>3</sup> The family removed to Bridport, Vt., in 1794.

*Children:*

- 1 PHEBE, born 23 May, 1789, at Thompson; died 6 Sept., 1872, at Bridport, unmarried.
- 2- 2 JACOB, born 15 June, 1792, at Thompson; married Sophia Cooley.
- 3 ELECTA, born 20 March, 1796, at Bridport; died there 28 July, 1867, unmarried.
- 4 SALLY, born 8 Jan., 1801, at Bridport; died there, 18 Nov., 1886;<sup>4</sup> married 1 Jan., 1845, at Bridport, Jason Converse,<sup>4</sup> born 28 June, 1807, died 21 May, 1880, son of Gardner and Polly (Sibley) Converse, and grandson of Capt. Paine Converse, a Revolutionary soldier.
- 5- 5 POLLY, born 24 May, 1802, at Bridport;<sup>4</sup> married Chester Derby.
- 6- 6 SAMUEL, born 26 Dec., 1806, at Bridport;<sup>4</sup> married Eviline Howe.

138O

IV. YOUNGLOVE BIXBY (*Jacob, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 5 Sept., 1768, at Thompson, Conn.; died 6 April, 1836, at Reading, Vt.; married 26 Dec., 1793, REBECCA BOYDEN, born 11 June, 1768, died 2 Feb., 1837, at Reading.

<sup>1</sup> In 1840, the Census of Pensioners records that she was living with Halsey Bixby, and was 72 years of age.

<sup>2</sup> Information of Miss Ellen D. Larned of Thompson, Conn.

<sup>3</sup> Thompson church records.

<sup>4</sup> Bridport, Vt., records.



YOUNGLOVE BIXBY removed to Vermont, first settling at Guilford. He purchased from James Perry in 1793 land in Reading, being then called "of Guilford."<sup>1</sup>

*Children, born at Reading:*<sup>2</sup>

- 1- 1 DANIEL, born 17 Dec., 1794; married Mary Pierce.
- 2- 2 REBECCA, born 28 Nov., 1796; married Jesse Briggs.
- 3 JEMIMA, born 28 Sept., 1798; died *s.p.*; married 12 March, 1838, Deacon Andrew Pettigrew of Plymouth, Vt. She was his third wife.
- 4- 4 ASA, born 5 May, 1801; married Mary Tolles.
- 5 JAMES, born 4 Dec., 1802; died 4 Oct., 1805.
- 6 LUCY, born 17 Oct., 1804; died 12 Aug., 1861, at Reading, unmarried.
- 7 POLLY, born 20 March, 1807; died 13 Nov., 1825.
- 8- 8 JAMES ARNOLD, born 17 March, 1809; married Betsy Martin; (2) Elizabeth (Weston) Ornice; (3) Susan T. (Dodge) Kenney.
- 9- 9 YOUNGLOVE, born 2 March, 1812; married Melinda Hatch. He added John to his name in 1851.

### 138P

IV. JEMIMA BIXBY (*Jacob, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 30 April, 1772, at Thompson, Conn.; died 12 Jan., 1813, in Yates Co., N. Y.; married 10 June, 1793,<sup>3</sup> at Thompson, JASPER PARTRIDGE, born 18 Oct., 1763, at Guilford, Vt., died 27 Oct., 1836, at Belfast, Alleghany Co., N. Y.,<sup>4</sup> son of Jasper and Mary (Rice) Partridge.<sup>5</sup>

Jasper Partridge lived in Vermont and was a soldier in the Revolution. He enlisted 9 April, 1781, and served nine months. He removed to Fabius, N. Y., in 1806, and was one of the board of trustees for the Baptist church organized there 21 Nov., 1806. Thence he removed to Yates Co. About 1833 he moved to Belfast, and settled on a farm a little out of the village. He was short in stature, but very strong, especially in the arms.

He married, second, at Milo, N. Y., 1814 or 1815, MRS. MARTHA (BUCHANAN) KIPP. Children: Henry K. Partridge, born 13 Jan., 1817, and others who died in infancy.

<sup>1</sup> Land records at Reading, Vt.

<sup>2</sup> Reading town records. The Bixby Ms. gives the birth of Asa as 1 May. Reading records were examined by Moses H. Bixby (12672.243) of Oleander, Calif.

<sup>3</sup> Thompson Church Records. A member of the family gives 17 Jan., 1793, as date of marriage.

<sup>4</sup> Rice Genealogy. Mary Rice was a descendant of Edmund Rice, born 1594, who emigrated to New England.

<sup>5</sup> Information concerning this family was received from Dr. Barton S. Partridge (138P8-6), Jasper R. Partridge (138P8-1), and Mary J. Van Doren (138P8-4). Dr. Partridge found the record of his grandfather's family in his father's bible and also obtained information from papers filed in the Revolutionary pension case of Jasper Partridge.

*Children,<sup>1</sup> born at Guilford, except the two youngest,<sup>2</sup> who were born at Fabius:*

- 1 BETSY PARTRIDGE, born 7 Dec., 1793; died 12 July, 1807.
- 2- 2 JONAS PARTRIDGE, born 25 Nov., 1795; married Amelia E. Wilson.
- 3 ERASTUS PARTRIDGE, born 18 Sept., 1797; joined regular army and died in the service.
- 4- 4 LEMUEL PARTRIDGE, born 14 July, 1799; married Euphania McQuin.
- 5- 5 HANNAH PARTRIDGE, born 3 Nov., 1801; married William Gibbs.
- 6- 6 MARY PARTRIDGE, born 21 Aug., 1803; married Rev. Thomas Davis.
- 7- 7 DAVID PARTRIDGE, born 22 Aug., 1805; married Laura Colton.
- 8- 8 LEWIS JOY PARTRIDGE; married Jane Ross.
- 9- 9 LUCINDA PARTRIDGE, born 4 March, 1811; married John J. Crawford.

### 138Q

IV. HANNAH BIXBY (*Jacob, Benjamin, Joseph*), born 26 May, 1774, at Thompson; Conn.; died 13 Jan., 1822;<sup>2</sup> married 25 Dec., 1800, at Bridport, Vt., WILLIAM BARBER.<sup>3</sup>

*Child:*

- 1 ASA BARBER, who married and had a son,<sup>4</sup> William Barber, who in turn married and has a daughter.

### 172I

IV. GIDEON BIXBY (*Gideon, George, Joseph*), born 15 June, 1752, at Boxford, Mass.; died there 15 Feb., 1830; married there 18 July, 1780,<sup>4</sup> SALLY WOOD, born 27 Aug., 1757, at Boxford,<sup>5</sup> died there 9 Oct., 1837, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah (Spofford)<sup>6</sup> Wood.

*Children, born at Boxford: <sup>4</sup>*

- 1- 1 REBECCA (Becca), born 12 May, 1781; married Ancil Kimball.
- 2- 2 SALLY, born 6 Dec., 1783; married Abraham T. Tilton.

<sup>1</sup>Information concerning this family was received from Dr. Barton S. Partridge (138P8-6), Jasper R. Partridge (138P8-1), and Mary J. Van Doren (138P8-4). Dr. Partridge found the record of his grandfather's family in his father's bible and also obtained information from papers filed in the Revolutionary pension case of Jasper Partridge.

<sup>2</sup>Or 1813, according to Jasper R. Partridge (138P8-1).

<sup>3</sup>Jasper Ross Partridge (138P8-1) wrote in 1909: "I have heard father say that his mother and sister Betsy and his aunt Hannah Barber all died within a week and were buried in an old cemetery in Yates County, but we have no dates. William Barber succeeded his father as sexton and undertaker in Geneva, for many years, and is probably dead. He had one child, a daughter, but I have forgotten her husband's name, and I presume the family are all dead."

<sup>4</sup>Boxford Vital Records.

<sup>5</sup>Information of Mrs. H. G. Tilton (17212-2), Skowhegan, Me.

<sup>6</sup>Mrs. Tilton writes that the maiden name of Sarah, wife of Jonathan Wood, was Redington. The Boxford record gives the marriage of Jonathan Wood and Mrs. Sarah Spofford, 24 Nov., 1778, at Rowley; and the birth of Sarah, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Wood, 27 Aug., 1757.

- 3 DAVID, born 20 April, 1786; died 19 Jan., 1849, at Boxford, unmarried. He was an invalid most of his life. He purchased land in Rowley in 1826 and lived there. In 1839 he is styled of Georgetown, and was living there in 1845.<sup>1</sup>
- 4- 4 GEORGE, born 27 Dec., 1788; married Rachel White.
- 5- 5 CHARLES, born 19 Oct., 1793; married Hannah French.
- 6- 6 SAMUEL, born 13 April, 1799; married Eleanor E. Johnson.

GIDEON BIXBY was a farmer in Boxford. He inherited his father's homestead. On the 21 April, 1774, he conveyed 108 acres with the buildings thereon to John Herrick. In this deed his mother Rebecca Gould joined;<sup>2</sup> and the same day he bought of Herrick a farm of 100 acres, with the stipulation that his mother should have the same right of dower in this farm as she had had in the farm sold to Herrick. The transaction was virtually an exchange of the two homesteads. The house on the Bixby farm which passed to Herrick, somewhat altered, was still standing when Perley wrote his "Dwellings of Boxford."

The family tradition that Gideon Bixby was a soldier in the Revolution is not sustained by official records. Jonathan Wood, his father-in-law, was, however, a Revolutionary soldier.

#### 1821

IV. NATHANIEL BIXBY (*Jonathan, Jonathan, Joseph*), baptized Oct., 1736, at Boxford, Mass.; married MARY STOWERS, "JR.," their intention of marriage being recorded at Leicester, Mass., 27 March, 1762. He was styled "of Sutton."

#### Children:

- 1 SAMUEL STOWERS, born 2 July, 1763, at Oxford;<sup>3</sup> married 17 March, 1790, at Middleton, Polly Sessions.<sup>4</sup> He is enumerated in the Census of 1790, his family consisting of self and wife, both living at Middleton; and in the direct tax of 1798 he was described as still a resident and land owner there.
- 2- 2 ELIAS, born 13 Aug., 1765, at Oxford.<sup>3</sup>
- 3 ELIZABETH GOODALE, born 26 Sept., 1767, at Oxford.<sup>3</sup>
- 4 MARY NEWHALL, born 2 Feb., 1770, at Worcester.<sup>5</sup>

NATHANIEL BIXBY served for several campaigns in the last war with France. His name appears on a pay abstract dated 30 May,

<sup>1</sup> The name of David Bixley, probably an error for Bixby, appears as a private in company commanded by Lt. Pritchard in Lt. Col. Page's regiment, which was stationed at Fort Warren, in Boston Harbor, 13 Sept., to 7 Nov., 1814. (*Mass. Militia in War of 1812.*)

<sup>2</sup> Essex Deeds, 148: 257; 132: 248.

<sup>4</sup> Middleton Vital Records.

<sup>3</sup> Oxford Vital Records.

<sup>5</sup> Worcester Births.

1754, for billeting the company commanded by Capt. Humphrey Hobbs from "their several homes to Charlestown Ferry." He received credit for thirty miles travel from Boxford.<sup>1</sup> A further record shows that he had enlisted, as centinel, in the above company, 31 May, and was discharged 22 Sept., 1754, and that he served in Col. Winslow's regiment on the Eastern frontiers.

He again enlisted for the Crown Point Expedition in 1756, the date of his "entering" being given 18 March, that of his enlistment 15 April. In the former case he is said to be a member of Capt. Israel Davis' company, the roll being dated 17 Feb., 1757, and the comment added "Came off without leave." But his enlistment record shows that he was a volunteer from Capt. Perley's militia company, in Col. Saltonstall's regiment, and was at Bradford 24 July, 1756, being returned as in service by "1st captain" Benjamin Millicken. He was probably assigned to Davis' company as he appears on the roll of that company as corporal, in a return dated camp Fort William Henry 9 Aug., 1756, and noted as having volunteered out of Col. Richard Saltonstall's regiment from Boxford. Davis commanded a company in the regiment commanded by Col. Bagley. In a roll dated 12 October, he is noted as "sick at Albany." This corroborates the family tradition, told by Perley in History of Boxford, that he was taken sick at Ft. Edward and sent to hospital at Albany, where he was found by his uncle Elias Bixby (186), then living at Sheffield. Although he was almost beyond recovery, his uncle cared for him, took him to his home at Sheffield, where, after a stay of five weeks, careful nursing restored his health so that he was able to return to Boxford in October. His uncle accompanied him on the 160 mile journey.

His name appears on the roll of a company of militia, probably the train band, commanded by Capt. Francis Peabody, in Lt. Col. John Osgood's regiment, 20 April, 1757, but he is not known to have seen active service that year. He enlisted 12 April, 1760, and served until 8 December in the company commanded by Capt. Henry Young Brown, and was allowed 120 miles travel home. Brown commanded a company in Col. Ruggles' regiment.

Probably he is also the Nathaniel Bixbee, aged 23 years, called "of Haverhill," who enlisted for the invasion of Canada, 6 April,

<sup>1</sup> Mass. Archives, French War Rolls, Vols. 93, 94, 97, 98.



1759, in Lt. Col. John Osgood's regiment. He is also thought to be that Nathaniel Bixby called of Leicester, housewright, who sued John Symonds of Holden to recover £12 due on a note dated 14 April, 1760. He obtained judgment.<sup>1</sup>

### ?1822

IV. ELIZABETH BIXBY (*Jonathan, Jonathan, Joseph*), baptized April, 1738, at Boxford, Mass.; died 19 Feb., 1832, aged 94 years;<sup>2</sup> married 17 June, 1760, at Boxford,<sup>3</sup> ELIAS JOHNSON, son of Daniel and Susanna (Bixby) Johnson (1891), born 28 Feb., 1734-5, died 25 Oct., 1811, aged 77 years.<sup>2</sup> He was a deacon in the Haverhill church.<sup>4</sup>

*Children, born at Haverhill,<sup>3</sup> Mass:*

- 1 RACHEL JOHNSON, born 23 May, 1761.
- 2 ELIZABETH JOHNSON, born 18 Aug., 1764.
- 3 OLIVE JOHNSON, born 29 Sept., 1767.
- 4 DANIEL JOHNSON, baptized 3 Sept., 1769.
- 5 RUTH JOHNSON, born 2 Sept., 1770.
- 6 DANIEL JOHNSON, born 4 July, 1774.

### 1824

IV. HULDAH BIXBY (*Jonathan, Jonathan, Joseph*), baptized Oct., 1740, at Boxford, Mass.; died 13 Jan., 1823, at Temple, N. H.; married 28 Dec., 1764, ASA STILES, of Middleton, born 3 Nov., 1741, died 19 April, 1808, son of Ebenezer, Jr., and Sarah (How) Stiles. Mrs. Huldah (Bixby) Stiles was dismissed from the church in Boxford to the church in Middleton, 29 Aug., 1773. About 1779 the family removed to that part of Wilton, N. H., now in Temple.<sup>5</sup>

*Children, except the eldest, born at Middleton: <sup>5</sup>*

- 1 ASA STILES, born 17 Nov., 1765, at Boxford; died 10 Feb., 1832, at Wilton. He was a farmer, merchant and blacksmith. He married 22 May, 1792, his cousin Betsey Stiles, who died 27 Aug., 1800, daughter of Abner Stiles. He married (2) Mrs. Abigail (Harwood) Carson, who died 4 May, 1821; (3) 18 Nov., 1822, Polly (Dascomb) Stiles, who died 26 Feb., 1849.
- Children:
1. Asa Stiles, born 27 April, 1794; died 2 Oct., 1874; married 2 Dec., 1819, Polly Tapley; (2) Mrs. Lucinda B. Holt; (3) Mrs. Betsey Farwell.

<sup>1</sup> Court of Common Pleas for Worcester Co., 1760.

<sup>2</sup> Inscription on gravestone, Haverhill.

<sup>3</sup> Haverhill Vital Records.

<sup>4</sup> Chase: History of Haverhill.

<sup>5</sup> Stiles Genealogy, p. 83, 106, etc.



2. Betsey Stiles, born 17 April, 1798; died 13 April, 1883; married David Blood of Mason, N. H.
3. Polly Stiles, born 7 June, 1800; married Royal Blood of Mason.  
By second marriage:
4. Nancy Stiles, born 25 Nov., 1803; married Gilbert Tapley of Milford, N. H.
5. Abigail Stiles, born 1805; married Ebenezer Davidson. They removed to Connecticut.
6. Sarah Stiles, born 1806; married Reuben Daniels of Woodstock, Vt.
- 2 EBENEZER STILES, born 28 Aug., 1769; died at Temple, 1835; married Prudence Child, born 30 Aug., 1769, died 5 Sept., 1805, daughter of Moses and Sarah (Stiles) Child of Temple. He married (2) Sarah Putnam.  
Children:
  1. Timothy Stiles, born 1797; married Nancy Parkman.
  2. Susannah Stiles, married Ira Hadley.
 By second marriage:
  3. Willard Stiles, born 1806; married Eliza Gould.
  4. Sarah Stiles, born 10 June, 1809; married ——— Abbott of Milford.
- 3 HULDAH STILES, born 28 Dec., 1772; married 5 March, 1795, Joseph Kidder of Temple.  
Children, besides two who died in infancy:
  1. Fanny Kidder, born 7 Oct., 1799; died 22 Jan., 1881, unmarried.
  2. Edna Kidder, born 25 Oct., 1801; died 17 June, 1877, unmarried.
  3. Asa Kidder, born 27 Sept., 1803; died 26 Sept., 1880; married 25 Aug., 1833, at Gaines, N. Y., Maria Burbank.
  4. Washington Kidder, born 14 July, 1806; died 21 Sept., 1806.
  5. Jefferson Kidder, born 14 July, 1806; married 13 Dec., 1840, Maria Knight of Westminster.
  6. Nelson Kidder, born 14 May, 1809; married, 1838, Lucy B. Barnes.
  7. Olive Kidder, born 16 Feb., 1814; married 19 April, 1832, Dr. David Wiley, who died 30 Jan., 1871.
- 4 OLIVE STILES, born 6 Aug., 1776; died 1851, unmarried.
- 5 FANNY STILES, born 30 March, 1778; died 24 May, 1866, at Wilton; married 17 June, 1800, Oliver Whiting, born 5 Jan., 1778, at Temple, died 2 Aug., 1849. He was seventh in descent from Rev. Samuel Whiting, first minister of Lynn, Mass.  
Children:
  1. Oliver Whiting, born 21 Feb., 1801; died 29 June, 1803.
  2. Fanny Whiting, born 17 March, 1807; died 17 July, 1830; married 5 June, 1828, Ephraim Whiting Blood of Temple.
  3. David Whiting, born 26 Aug., 1810; died 1882; married Emma Spaulding.
  4. Martha Whiting, born 7 Aug., 1812; died 1 May, 1813.
  5. Hannah Whiting, born 12 June, 1814; married John Bragg of Wilton.
  6. Sarah Whiting, born 3 April, 1816; married 2 Aug., 1841, Jonathan Parkhurst.
- 6 DAVID STILES, born 22 Dec., 1779; died at Wilton, June, 1870; married Elizabeth Mack of Londonderry, N. H., who died Feb., 1872, aged about 95 years. He was much engaged in land surveying, settling estates, and business of a justice of the peace. He also taught school.  
Children:
  1. Eliza Jane Stiles, born 1808, at Temple; died Oct., 1868; married James S. Mace of Amherst, N. H.
  2. David Stiles, born 11 Feb., 1811; killed by a railroad train at Lyndeboro, N. H., 1 Jan., 1881; married, 1839, Maria Goodrich, who died 31 Dec., 1884. They settled at Mount Vernon, N. H.
  3. Frances Stiles, born July, 1813, resided at Wilton; unmarried.

## 1829

IV. APHIA<sup>1</sup> (also AFFEE and AFFA)<sup>2</sup> BIXBY (*Jonathan, Jonathan, Joseph*), born 16 March, 1750-1, at Boxford, Mass.;<sup>1</sup> died 16 March, 1829, "aged 83 years,"<sup>2</sup> at Bernardston, Mass.; married<sup>3</sup> 26 Feb., 1771, JOHN POWERS of Salem, Mass.,<sup>1</sup> a baker, born at Charlestown, Mass., died 12 Jan., 1826, at the age of 82, son of John and Sarah (Eveleth) Powers. They lived in Boston, Quincy, Milton, Braintree, Middleton, Greenfield and Bernardston, Mass.

*Children:*<sup>4</sup>

- 1 JOHN POWERS, living in Weston, Mass., 1863.
- 2 ABIGAIL POWERS, married William Reed.
- 3 DANIEL EVELETH POWERS, married 26 Feb., 1797, in Boston, Mary Bull; (2) Deborah Crocker. They lived in Boston.
- 4- 4 SARAH POWERS, born 26 Aug., 1779; married John Williams.
- 5 JOSEPH POWERS, died unmarried.
- 6- 6 JOANNA POWERS, born 3 Feb., 1785, at Quincy, Mass.; married Samuel Gray; (2) William Evans.
- 7 EDWARD EPPS POWERS, born 24 Nov., 1793, at Lancaster, Mass.; died 12 June, 1855, in Chicago, Ill., unmarried. He was apprenticed to learn the trade of saddler and harness maker. In early life he removed to Georgia and started in mercantile life, in which at Clinton and Columbus, he achieved financial success. During his life he not only gave generously, but at his death left \$10,000, to endow an educational institution at Bernardston, now called the Powers Institute, and a like memorial to the Female Orphan Asylum at Columbus. He had a summer residence in Bernardston, and is buried there.

AFFA (BIXBY) POWERS is the only member of the first four generations of the Bixby family whose likeness it has been possible to obtain for the purpose of inserting in this genealogy. Opposite is shown the reproduction<sup>5</sup> of a silhouette. On the back of the original is written "Affa Bixbee Powers, aged 80, Nov. 8, 1827."

## 182K

IV. RUTH BIXBY (*Jonathan, Jonathan, Joseph*), born 15 Aug., 1754, at Boxford, Mass.; died 15 July, 1783, at Middleton, Mass., aged twenty eight years;<sup>6</sup> married 14 March, 1780, at Middleton,

<sup>1</sup> Boxford, Mass., Vital Records.

<sup>2</sup> Information of Theodore Gray (18296-54), who spells the name Affa Bixbee.

<sup>3</sup> She was unmarried in July, 1769. Session Record, July, 1770, at Salem, Mass., where the name is spelled Apphia.

<sup>4</sup> Information of Alfred W. Lucas (18294-62) and Theodore Gray (18296-54), with additions from Kellogg's History of Bernardston, Mass.

<sup>5</sup> Through the courtesy of Theodore Gray (18296-54).

<sup>6</sup> Gravestone at Middleton; see Middleton Vital Records.



AFFA (BIXBY) POWERS (1829)



NEHEMIAH FULLER, born 25 Oct., 1750,<sup>1</sup> died 24 March, 1785, aged 34 years, son of Ephraim and Mary (Putnam) Fuller of Middleton.<sup>2</sup>

*Child:*

- 1 NEHEMIAH FULLER, born 22 Sept., 1780,<sup>1</sup> at Middleton; died there 30 March, 1806, aged twenty five years.

## 182L

IV. DAVID BIXBY (*Jonathan, Jonathan, Joseph*), born 6 Sept., 1757, at Boxford, Mass.; died 18 Dec., 1838, at Piermont, N. H.;<sup>3</sup> married 26 April, 1790, at Pepperrill,<sup>3</sup> Mass., NANCY PECKER,<sup>4</sup> born 1770,<sup>3</sup> living, 1848, aged 78 years.<sup>3</sup>

*Children, born at Piermont:*<sup>5</sup>

- 1- 1 JEREMIAH, born 13 Aug., 1791; married Eliza Sinclair.
- 2- 2 DAVID, born 9 Aug., 1793; married Lydia Barber.
- 3- 3 NANCY, born 1 May, 1795; married Roswell Farnham.
- 4- 4 RUTH, born 20 Aug., 1797; married Roswell Farnham.
- 5- 5 HARRIET, born 17 April, 1802; married Nathaniel Kimball.
- 6- 6 JOHN M.,<sup>6</sup> born 22 Feb., 1803; married Elizabeth Fifield.
- 7 MARY ANN, born 22 Sept., 1807; died 2 May, 1883; married David Clark, who was born June, 1808, and died 21 Aug., 1861, aged 53 years, two months.

DAVID BIXBY was a resident of Middleton, Mass., at the commencement of the Revolution. He enlisted in Jan., 1775, in a company of Minute Men, and was in the battle of Lexington, 19 April, 1775. He enlisted 4 May, 1775, in a company commanded by Capt. Asa Prince, Col. Mansfield's regiment, for eight months and served until the expiration of his term of enlistment.<sup>7</sup> He received a bounty coat order, 21 Dec., 1775.<sup>8</sup> In 1776 he enlisted for a tour of duty in Rhode Island, and marched to Bristol, R. I.

<sup>1</sup> Middleton Vital Records.

<sup>2</sup> Fuller Genealogy, by J. F. Fuller, where his birth appears as 5 Oct.

<sup>3</sup> Papers in pension case, U. S. Pension Bureau. The death of David Bixby is not of record at Piermont.

<sup>4</sup> "Parker" in Pepperrell records, but in the pension papers, while the name is Parker in one or more instances, she styles herself as Nancy Pecker. Family tradition asserts her to have been the daughter of John Pecker of Haverhill, a prominent citizen and physician there, for whom Pecker street, Haverhill, is named. Dr. Pecker was twice married and had twenty children. A daughter Anna was baptized 16 June, 1765.

<sup>5</sup> The births of the four eldest children are found on Piermont records.

<sup>6</sup> He is variously styled John Minard and John Minott. His marriage record and his signature in 1848, as a witness in papers in pension case of mother, reads John M.

<sup>7</sup> Papers in pension case, U. S. Pension Bureau.

<sup>8</sup> Mass. Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolution.



His service under this enlistment was for two months,<sup>1</sup> but is not of record on the Massachusetts Revolutionary Rolls. He again enlisted, 25 Aug., 1777, and was discharged, 30 Nov., 1777,<sup>2</sup> near Kingsbridge, N. Y. He was a corporal in company commanded by Capt. Samuel Flint, Col. Samuel Johnson's regiment.<sup>2</sup> In his declaration when applying for a pension, 16 Aug., 1832, he stated that he served three months in Flint's company, marched to Stillwater, and was at the taking of Burgoyne, and that his captain, lieutenant, and a large number of the company were killed at Bemis Heights, 17 October. His command marched from Saratoga down the North (Hudson) river to Kingsbridge. The Massachusetts rolls show he was allowed mileage from Scarsdale, N. Y., home. He again enlisted, 1 Sept., 1778, for two months, in a company commanded by Capt. Woodbury in Col. Thorndike's regiment, and marched to Rhode Island, where he participated in the campaign under Gen. Sullivan, and was "with Gen. Sullivan in battle and during the retreat from the island." He was discharged at Patuckett.<sup>1</sup> He next shipped as ordinary seaman on the ship Franklin,<sup>3</sup> Capt. John Turner, his name appearing on a descriptive list of the crew dated 2 Dec., 1780,<sup>2</sup> where he is described as aged 21 years, light complexion, a resident of Salem. The cruise of this vessel began 8 Aug., 1780. His own declaration of service states he entered the service in April, 1781, undoubtedly a lapse of memory as to the year; was captured with a prize of the Franklin, and was held a prisoner for 17 months, 11 months of which were spent in Mill Prison in England. He was finally exchanged "for Lord Cornwallis' men," and returned to Boston in 1782.<sup>1</sup> According to his own statement he was in fourteen battles on the ocean and in the battle of Bunker Hill.<sup>1</sup> Family tradition avers that he was quite successful in his first privateering cruise, his share of the prize money being considerable, but on a second

<sup>1</sup> Papers in pension case, U. S. Pension Bureau.

<sup>2</sup> Mass. Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolution.

<sup>3</sup> The ship Franklin was owned by Nathan Goodale of Salem, merchant. His bond applying for a letter of marque was on file with the Secretary of State for Massachusetts in 1849, as certified to by William Tufts, deputy, in the pension case cited. The Franklin was to be commanded by John Turner, Jr., and was a private ship of war. The name of David Bixby appeared on a roll of the ship's company dated 6 Aug., 1780. In June and in Dec., 1781, Congress granted letters of marque to the ship Franklin of Salem, owned by George and Andrew Cabot and Bartholomew Putnam. The Franklin was then described as mounting 18 guns and carrying a crew of 100 men. (*Naval Records of the Revolution, published by Library of Congress.*) The Franklin was captured 1 May, 1781 (*N. E. Hist. Gen. Reg.*, 19: 211).

cruise was taken prisoner and suffered great privations in Mill Prison near Dartmouth. At the time of his capture his ship was near a home port, but was overhauled by a British frigate.

David Bixby dated his pension application at Piermont, N. H., 16 Aug., 1832. He gave his age as 75 years, stating he had a record of his birth made by his father, and that he had lived in Piermont for thirty-seven years. He received a pension of \$50 per annum, dating from 4 March, 1831. An affidavit filed with his application, given by Jonathan Sheldon of Danville, Vt., who was aged 77 years in 1832, states that Sheldon enlisted 1 Sept., 1777, in Capt. Flint's company, for three months, and served in the same company as Bixby, who was a resident of Middleton. Sheldon lived in Danvers. "Bixby and nearly all the company marched, as nearly as I can recollect, three or four days before I did. I joined the company at Stillwater. Bixby was in the engagement which took place shortly before Burgoyne's surrender. He was a good and faithful soldier." After the surrender the company marched to White Plains, thence Bixby returned home.

Upon his return from England, Bixby appears to have lived two or three years in Middleton. In 1784 he joined with his brother Jonathan in conveying lands in Middleton, and in 1786 he and Jonathan, both of Haverhill, sell to John Upton, 44 acres, on which their house and barn stood, and other land, in all about 100 acres in Middleton.<sup>1</sup> He may have lived a brief period at Pepperrell, but in 1794 bought land in Piermont, N. H.,<sup>2</sup> whither, it would seem, from the entries of birth of his elder children, he had gone immediately after his marriage.

His widow, Nancy, applied for a pension, 8 May, 1839, declaring that she was 69 years of age, that she had married David Bixby 19 April, 1790, and had not remarried since his death, 18 Dec., 1838.<sup>3</sup> When she was 78 years old she applied for an increase of pension. John M. Bixby and his son John witnessed her signature.

Piermont was settled prior to the Revolution, and is in the north-western part of Grafton county, on the Connecticut river, just south of Haverhill.

<sup>1</sup> Essex Deeds, 142: 271; 134: 147.

<sup>2</sup> Grafton Deeds, 19: 35.

<sup>3</sup> Papers in pension case, U. S. Pension Bureau. The death of David Bixby is not of record at Piermont.

1861

IV. JONATHAN BIXBY<sup>1</sup> (*Elias, Jonathan, Joseph*), born probably about 1730 at Fairfield, Conn.; died at Nobletown, Columbia Co., N. Y., 20 Jan., 1812;<sup>2</sup> married 4 July, 1752, at Fairfield, MARTHA HULL,<sup>3</sup> daughter of George Hull; He married, second, May, 1798, at Nobletown, ELIZABETH,<sup>2</sup> born 1762, living in Nov., 1852, aged ninety years, at Addison, N. Y.<sup>2</sup>

*Children, four eldest born at Fairfield:*<sup>4</sup>

- 1- 1 LYDIA, born 19 Feb., 1753; married Abel Whalen.
- 2- 2 SARAH, born 19 Feb., 1755; married Caleb Clark.
- 3 DANIEL, born 15 May, 1757.
- 4 JOHN, twin with Daniel.
- 5- 5 AARON HULL, born probably in 1758; married Mercy Bagley.
- 6- 6 NATHANIEL, born about 1760; married ———; (2) ———.
- 7- 7 ANDREWS (ANDREAS), born about 1762; married Priscilla Cleveland.
- 8 JONATHAN, born 1764.<sup>5</sup>
- 9- 9 MOSES, born 1766; married Eva Schauermann.

JONATHAN BIXBE was in Fairfield as late as 1766, when his name appears on the account book of the Sterling Store at Wilton. Soon after that date he probably joined his father in Nobletown, as he was a member of the Claverack, N. Y., company, commanded by Capt. Hogeboom, 1 May, 1767.<sup>6</sup> He served in the Revolution. On the 20 Aug., 1852, Elizabeth Bixbe, his widow, then living in Addison, Steuben Co., N. Y., made application for a pension. She asserted she was married to Jonathan Bixby at Nobletown in the county of Columbia, N. Y., and that the marriage ceremony was performed by Eugene Birdsall on 1 May, 1798. She claimed that Jonathan had been a captain in the Revolutionary war.

<sup>1</sup> His name is variously spelled in different records. The spelling used in the text is that used in the records from which the facts recorded were taken.

<sup>2</sup> Widow's application for pension.

<sup>3</sup> Fairfield records. She may have been sister of George Hull (186-5).

<sup>4</sup> Fairfield records. The children younger than Aaron Hull are presumptive. No direct record or family evidence can be found to substantiate this arrangement, but such is the cumulative, although circumstantial, evidence from many sources, that it seems certain they were children of Jonathan (1861). No other group of families in this history has demanded the research this has required.

<sup>5</sup> In an undated roster of New York State troops, from internal evidences of later date than May, 1778, it appears that there was a Jonathan Bixby, a private, in the company of Capt. Whitney, being the sixth company in Van Ness' regiment, who undoubtedly is Jonathan (1861-8). Joshua Whitney was in command of the sixth company in October and November, 1781, and was then present at Saratoga with a detachment of his company. At the same time Lieut. Whalen was detached with men from his company on the same service. (*New York in the Revolution*, 1: 268: 9.)

<sup>6</sup> Second Report of the State Historian.

She filed with her application the commission issued to him by "The Provincial Congress for the Colony of New York," dated 15 May, 1776. This commission is still on file at the Pension Bureau, and shows that Jonathan Bigsby was made a captain of the fifth company of foot in the ninth regiment of the county of Albany, commanded by Col. Peter Van Ness. She further stated that Jonathan died at Nobletown in New York, 20 Jan., 1812, and that at the time of making her application she was ninety years of age.<sup>1</sup>

Joseph Orr of Addison testified he was sixty five years of age and had known Jonathan Bixby who was a Revolutionary soldier, and was acquainted with his wife, now his widow, and that they were married at Nobletown in 1798, and had ever after lived as man and wife. He had often heard Jonathan Bixby relate the "acts and circumstances which took place while he was acting as captain in the Revolutionary war and that he was called captain; . . . said Bixby was a man from five feet eight inches to five feet ten inches in height, light complexioned, rather strong build; that he attempted to get the record of their marriage, but has been unable; that he has seen the entry thereof in the family bible kept by the said Bixby, while in the possession of his son Aaron Bixby, but has been unable to learn where said Aaron now resides."<sup>1</sup> The application was rejected for lack of evidence of Jonathan Bixby's marriage and death, and because the statements were not according to the form prescribed by law. The case was still pending 6 May, 1853. From New York State records it appears that Jonathan Bixby was in command of the company mentioned above on the 28 May, 1778, and that Abel Wheland was second lieutenant of that company. This company was apparently attached to the Second Claverack Battalion. Joseph Heath, who had been first lieutenant, was promoted captain in place of Jonathan Bixby, resigned, 6 Feb., 1779, and Wheland became first lieutenant.

There is a return endorsed "Nobletown, Nov ye 18 day 1776. Return of Cap Bixby Company in the Continental Searvis," filed with the Connecticut Revolutionary Rolls,<sup>2</sup> in which Capt. Jonathan Bixby is credited with thirty one days' service, and Lieut. Abel Wheatland with thirty days' service. Caleb Clark was also a member of this company.

<sup>1</sup> Papers, Pension Bureau.

<sup>2</sup> Connecticut Men in the Revolution, p. 619.



William C. Bixby (18616.434) of New York wrote in 1909, "my father, Jonathan Bixby, had a relative, whom he thinks was his uncle, who was an officer in the Revolution, and that his own uncle Andrew was named after another uncle of his father, who was called Andrus or Andrew."

Jonathan Bigsby of Hillsdale is the only one of that name, *i. e.*, Jonathan, in the United States census of 1790. He was the head of a family consisting of three males over sixteen years and two females. The only other Bigsby or Bixby in Hillsdale was Moses Bigsby.

## 1862

IV. DANIEL BIXBY (*Elias, Jonathan, Joseph*), born 1732, probably at Fairfield, Conn.; died prior to 1762; married, probably, DEZIAH HERRICK. Rev. Thomas P. Ege, compiler of the Dodson Genealogy, has supplied the following information concerning Dezhiah Herrick: "Dezhiah Herrick, wife of *Elias* Bixby, was born 1728 and died 18 Sept., 1804. She married, second, Nathan Beach, and again, in her old age, Joseph Rhodes. Her small tombstone in Beach Grove Cemetery, near Beach Haven, Penn., bears the inscription 'Dezhiah Rhodes, mother of Nathan Beach, Jr., died 18 April, 1804.' Nathan Beach, Jr., her son, died in 1847, eighty four years of age. He had been a most useful and prosperous citizen, and had represented his county in the state legislature. Nathan Beach, Sr., came to Luzerne Co. in 1769, from near Hudson, N. Y. His wife, the widow Bixby, was the first white woman to cross the Blue Mountains into Pennsylvania. I find further that she had but one child by Nathan Beach, viz., Nathan Beach, Jr., born July, 1763. Thomas Dodson married Mehitable Bixby, April, 1778, and Jonas Dodson married Susannah Bixby, also in 1778. Nathan Beach, Jr., had the following children: Thomas, Josiah, Nathan, Hannah, Ann, Mary, Dezhiah. The last named married Dr. Mason Crary, of Albany, N. Y., who settled in Luzerne and was the father of Nathan Beach Crary, who is now quite an old man." Mr. Crary died in February, 1911. He was of Shicksinny, Penn., and from him "and others" Mr. Ege obtained what information he had concerning Dezhiah (Herrick-Bixby) Beach. It is apparently through this same source that the tradition was perpetuated, that Elias Bixby, the supposed husband of Dezhiah, was a New England sea captain who was lost at sea.



*Children, born probably in Connecticut, or Columbia Co., N. Y., of Deziah (Herrick) Bixby:*

- 1 ELIAS, killed 3 July, 1778, in the Wyoming massacre. The account books of M. & J. Hollenback, merchants, at Wilkesbarre, show a charge against Elias Bigsby, Jr., under date of 18 Oct., 1774, of sugar, deck of cards, and mittens. Elias Bigsby, Sr., also had an account with the firm. Following the entry against the younger Elias, is a charge against the notorious Queen Esther, the Indian, whose ferocity at the time of the massacre led to her killing, with her own hand, several of the Americans taken prisoner at the battle. The knowledge that Elias Bixby was not married is based on a statement made by Mary Ann Hollenback to her niece, Mrs. Welles, the mother of Mr. Edward Welles of Wilkesbarre, to the effect that Elias Bixby was a clerk in the store of the Hollenbacks and was engaged to marry Mary Ann Hollenback, and that he was killed in the battle, his body being identified by articles found on it, which were sent to her. This precludes the idea that Bethel Bixby, whose name appears on the list of losses, could have been the widow of Elias. The following statement appears in a record in possession of Mr. Welles. This statement was made by Nathan Beach, Esq., 5 Sept., 1834, and was written down at that time by George M. Hollenback,<sup>1</sup> son of Matthias Hollenback. "Matthias Hollenback was ensign in Capt. Robert Durkee's company, 2d Regiment Penn. line; was in the Jerseys at Elizabethtown, Monmouth, and afterward in the Wyoming battle in 1778. Wyoming was at that time called Westmoreland, attached to Litchfield Co., Conn. Elias Bixby was orderly sergeant in the same company, and served at the battle of Long Island, and afterward taken prisoner at Fort Washington, was placed aboard the prison ship Jersey, and was killed July 3, 1778, in the Wyoming Massacre. He left one sister, married to Thomas Dodson, both since deceased, leaving the following children: Elias, Nathan, Richard, Stephen, John Dodson. It is said that all the names are registered in the War Office, and calculations made of the amounts due each officer or soldier." Examination of the rolls of soldiers in the American Revolution, preserved by the states of Pennsylvania and Connecticut, fails to reveal the name of the above described Elias Bixby. It is acknowledged that the rolls of the Wyoming companies are incomplete. The name of Elias Bixby appears on the Wyoming Monument. Administration on the estate of Elias Bixby was first granted to ——— Dodson, who filed an inventory taken in 1782 by Hugh Fordsman and Abel Yarrington. The estate was represented worth £52, including several small notes of hand. There is no record of Dodson's appointment either at Wilkesbarre or at Sunbury. Nathan Cary was appointed administrator, 10 Dec., 1788, and it is through the inventory filed by him, dated 6 July, 1789, that the earlier administration is known. Among the debts of the estate was a note to the administrator for \$100, dated 1 May, 1778, which remains on file, the signature to which proves to be the same as that appended to the note<sup>2</sup> on the cover of the Hollenback ledger, described under Elias (186). Cary, unable to realize on the personality, obtained permission to sell lot No. 10 in Plymouth, which belonged

<sup>1</sup>"John Hollenbach was my grand-father. His son, George M. Hollenbach, died without issue. It was George M. Hollenbach who made the deposition regarding the Revolutionary service quoted by Mr. Charles W. Bixby (13435.322) of Wilkes-Barre.

"Ellen Hollenbach, a sister of George M., married Charles Fisher Welles, the father of Edward Welles. She told Mr. Edward Welles of the battle and the finding of the relics on the body of Elias Bixby. She was a niece of Mary Ann Hollenbach, who is said to have been engaged to the said Elias Bixby. Mary Ann had been sent down the river with others upon the first alarm. She married William Cherry of Virginia, and was remembered by her niece Ellen (Hollenbach) Welles." (*Statement of Mr. Edward Welles*, March, 1911.)

<sup>2</sup>A facsimile is shown opposite page 158.

to the deceased. This lot was sold 25 Dec., 1789, to John Nathan Wolley, who resided upon it, but the conveyance was not made until 24 March, 1791. In the papers of administration Elias Bixby is described as of Plymouth.<sup>1</sup>

2- 2 MEHITABLE, born 12 May, 1760; married Thomas Dodson.

3- 3 SUSANNAH; married James Dodson.

DANIEL BIXBY was one of the witnesses to an indenture dated 21 April, 1751, between the heirs of John Osburne of Fairfield.<sup>2</sup> There is no further mention of him on Fairfield records. He probably accompanied his father to Nobletown. He is undoubtedly that Daniel Bixby who appears as sergeant in Capt. Phillip J. Schuyler's company, in the regiment of N. Y. Provincial troops commanded by Col. James De Lancey, serving from 14 June to 2 Dec., 1755. He also served as a private in a company commanded by Capt. Peter Baine in 1760. He is reported enlisted 1 May, 1760, aged 28 years, born in Connecticut, tailor, five feet ten inches in height, fair complexion, light brown hair, blue eyes; and as having volunteered out of Hogeboom's company of militia.<sup>3</sup> Capt. Johannis Hogeboom was captain of the militia company comprising the men of Claverack, including the disputed territory of Nobletown. In 1767 David and Jonathan Bixby, sons of Elias (186), were members of that company. Ezekiel Herrick of Coventry, Conn., born at Preston in 1699, lived for a time in western Massachusetts, and the seventh of his eight children, whose dates of birth are not given in the Herrick Genealogy, was named Deziah. It is thought probable that Daniel Bixby married this Deziah about 1755, and died in the army, or from disease contracted during his service.

### 1863

IV. MOLLY BIXBY (*Elias, Jonathan, Joseph*), born about 1734, probably at or near Fairfield, Conn.; married THOMAS ROORBACK or Roorbagh of Linlithgo, N. Y.

*Children,<sup>4</sup> born at Claverack, N. Y., or Linlithgo:*

1 JURGER ROORBACK, born 25 April, 1756, at Claverack.

2 CATALYNTJE ROORBACK, born 22 April, 1759, baptized at Linlithgo.

<sup>1</sup> Records Orphans' Court, Wilkesbarre, Penn. The Hollenback ledgers are now in possession of the Wyoming Hist. and Geol. Society. <sup>2</sup> Fairfield Land Records, X: 486.

<sup>3</sup> Report of N. Y. State Historian, Vol. 2, p. 584, also Volume 1, and Collections N. Y. Historical Society, Vol. 24, p. 47.

<sup>4</sup> The record of the eldest child was found at Claverack, in the Dutch Church records; the others at Linlithgo. On the last named records, the name of the mother appears twice as Molly,

to be the 10<sup>th</sup> of 1775  
I promise to pay to Elias Bixby  
the just and full sum of this forty  
pounds by money at and before  
the feast of May next in said  
year 1775 or within the time  
of March 10 next at present  
William Cocke Elias Bixby

Matth. Hollenbeck

Elias Bixby his and pen got  
he will be good but if  
I from



- 3 LENA ROORBACK, born 7 Jan., 1761, baptized at Linlithgo.  
 4 SARA ROORBACK, born 20 Sept., 1768, baptized at Linlithgo.

## 1866

IV. ELINOR BIXBY (*Elias, Jonathan, Joseph*), born probably about 1740; married 27 March, 1770, at Redding, Conn., SETH MEEKER, (both of Redding<sup>1</sup>), born 1749, died 5 Feb., 1829, and is buried at Umpawaug.<sup>2</sup> Seth Meeker probably married, second, 15 March, 1775, Millicent Davis.<sup>3</sup>

*Children, born at Redding:*<sup>1</sup>

- 1 BENJAMIN MEEKER, born 1 Feb., 1771.  
 2 MOLLY MEEKER, born 19 Nov., 1773.

## 1868

IV. EBENEZER BIXBY (*Elias, Jonathan, Joseph*), born at or near Fairfield, Conn., probably in 1744;<sup>4</sup> died 10 March, 1822, in his 78th year,<sup>5</sup> at Hillsdale, N. Y.; married 1 Jan., 1767, at Norfield Parish, Fairfield,<sup>6</sup> MARY MOREHOUSE, who died 22 Dec., 1816, in her seventieth year, at Hillsdale.<sup>5</sup>

*Children, born at Norfield Parish, now Weston, Conn.:*<sup>6</sup>

- 1- 1 ELEANOR, baptized 17 Nov., 1768; married Joseph Morehouse.  
 2- 2 ALBA, baptized 14 July, 1771; married Mary Sturgess.  
 Perhaps others.<sup>7</sup>

EBENEZER BIXBY probably accompanied his father to Noble-town. He enlisted, 12 April, 1760, out of Staat's company of

once as Maria. At Claverack the father's name appears as Roorbagh. There are no gravestones erected to any of this family in the cemetery, nor has any settlement of Thomas Roorback's estate been found in the records of Albany or Columbia counties.

The Linlithgo records show the marriage of Mary Bixby to Coenralt Pickle, both of Livingston Manor, 18 April, 1780. Also there is found the record of baptism of Elias, son of David and Mary M. (Millard) Bigsby, 1777. The query arises, did the widow of David Bixby retire to Linlithgo after the Wyoming Massacre?

<sup>1</sup> Redding records.

<sup>2</sup> Grumman: Revolutionary Soldiers of Redding, p. 148, where the date of marriage with Millicent Davis is given 14 March.

<sup>3</sup> Children of Seth and Millicent Meeker: John Meeker, born 30 March, 1776. Esther Meeker, born 26 Feb., 1778. Eleanor Meeker, born 21 March, 1780. Badonia Meeker, born 23 April, 1782. Aaron Meeker, born 12 June, 1784; died 5 Nov., 1784. Charlotte Meeker, born 10 Dec., 1785. Parmela Meeker, born 18 June, 1788. Catherine Meeker, born 22 Oct., 1790. Betsey Meeker, born 19 March, 1793. Moses Meeker, born 13 March, 1796.

<sup>4</sup> Coll. N. Y. Hist. Soc., Vol. 24, pp. 250, 527.

<sup>5</sup> Gravestones at Hillsdale.

<sup>6</sup> Norfield Parish Records.

<sup>7</sup> The Census of 1790 accords Ebenezer Bixby a family consisting of two males over 16 years, one male under 16 years, and two females.



New York militia in Capt. Van Veghten's company of New York Provincial troops.<sup>1</sup> The muster roll describes him as aged sixteen years, five feet, six inches in height, fair complexion, with light brown hair and gray eyes. In 1761 he was a member of the same company, his name appearing as Eleazer Bixby. He returned to Fairfield, and in 1764 was witness of a deed from Samuel Sherwood to Daniel Andrews. On the 25 March, 1767, he bought of Daniel Andrews six acres in Norfield Parish, part of Applegate's Long Lot, near the house of Michael Dunning and bounded east by the highway.<sup>2</sup> On the 16 Jan., 1771, he purchased jointly with John Stillman Andrews from Seth Hall, 45 acres in Wilton Parish, being the eastern part of Harres' ridge. Probably his half of this purchase was what he sold, 28 Jan., 1793, to Job Lockwood, the same being described as 22½ acres in Wilton.<sup>2</sup> The same day he sold 14½ acres, house and barn to Jared Duncan.

The Sterling Store (Wilton) accounts show that 16 June, 1769, he received credit for boards delivered and for sledding wood, which he offset by purchases, one of the items being a pair of boys' shoes at three shillings. The small credit due him was not discharged until Sept., 1776, when settlement was made by credit "with his school," the entry perhaps referring to the discharge for him of his school tax. In these accounts the name is generally written Bigsbee. He also had an account from 1771 to 1789 with Eliphalet Lockwood of Norwalk, who conducted an extensive trade throughout the neighboring towns. One of these items, in 1771, shows the payment of an account against Elias Bigsby by a like charge to Ebenezer. Another item due from Elias was settled by Mathew Marvin of Wilton.

In 1785 and 1790 Ebenezer Bixby was one of the Collectors of the church rate for Norfield Parish. In 1787 he was active in the movement to obtain the setting off of Weston as a town. He may have removed to Hillsdale about 1797,<sup>3</sup> as that year he and wife Mary, as of Hillsdale, sell to Benjamin Lynes, of Ridgefield, land in Weston belonging to the estate of Nathan Morehouse, late of Weston, deceased, except the dower rights of Mercy his relict.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Coll. N. Y. Hist. Soc., Vol. 24, pp. 250, 527.

<sup>2</sup> Fairfield and Norwalk Land Records.

<sup>3</sup> The last time his name appears on Fairfield or Norwalk land records is 1798. From 1771-74 he is styled of Fairfield, in 1793 of Weston.

<sup>4</sup> Weston Land Records, 5: 329. The deed also conveyed right in five acres formerly belonging to Ann Coley, deceased, late wife of Daniel Coley, of Ridgefield, deceased, and some salt meadow in Fairfield. The date of conveyance was 23 March, 1797.

He purchased 39 acres there, of Henry I. Van Rensselaer of Hillsdale, 11 June, 1804.<sup>1</sup> On 21 Feb., 1810, he and wife Mary sell to Joseph Morehouse of Hillsdale, six acres adjoining his residence.<sup>1</sup>

## 1869

IV. DAVID BIXBY (*Elias, Jonathan, Joseph*), baptized 18 May, 1746, at Green's Farms, Conn.; killed at the Wyoming Massacre, 3 July, 1778; married MARY M. MILLARD,<sup>2</sup> who died at Claverack, N. Y., probably about 1781.<sup>3</sup>

*Children:*<sup>3</sup>

1- 1 JONATHAN (Johnathan), born May, 1773; married Christina Turner.

2- 2 ELIAS, born 17 Feb., 1777; baptized 17 March, 1777, at Linlithgo, N. Y.; married Dorothy Bussie.

3 ?HANNAH, probably posthumous.

DAVID BIXBY evidently accompanied his father Elias when the latter removed to the debatable land, then called Nobletown. He and Jonathan Bixby, his brother, were members of the militia company at Claverack commanded by Capt. Johannis Hogeboom, 13 May, 1767.<sup>4</sup> He next appears in the Wyoming Valley, being taxed at Kingston in Aug., 1777. His name is also found on the tax list dated 1 Nov., 1778, but not on that of Aug., 1780.<sup>5</sup> His name with that of his nephew, Elias Bixby, appears upon the Wyoming monument, among the names of those slain 3 July, 1778. From a list made up after that event, printed in the Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society, second series, 3: 345, it appears that he left a family and two children.

The eldest child, Jonathan, was over five years of age at the time of the massacre. His granddaughter, Mrs. Emma Corson of Chicago, in March, 1908, stated that she had often heard her grandfather tell the story of their escape after his father had been murdered by the Indians. She stated that her great grandmother saw her husband scalped at their home; saw the Indians break up their furniture; rip open the feather beds and dance in them. She

<sup>1</sup> Columbia Co. Deeds, K: 443; E: 29.

<sup>2</sup> Linlithgo Dutch Church Records. These show the marriage of Mary Bixby to Coenralt Pickle both of Livingston Manor 18 April, 1780. The query arises, did the widow of David Bixby return to Linlithgo after the Wyoming Massacre and is this a record of a second marriage?

<sup>3</sup> Statement of Mrs. Corson (1869:2-9). The dates of birth are obtained from her and from other sources.

<sup>4</sup> Second Report of the State Historian.

<sup>5</sup> Taxables of Westmoreland, in Coll. Wyoming Hist. and Geol. Soc., 5.

saw the dwellinghouse burned. She fled to the woods with her children, which Mrs. Corson thought were three in number, not two, Jonathan, Elias, and a baby, Hannah. Mrs. Corson said that not only does she remember the old lady, called Aunt Hannah, but believed her to be a sister of her grandfather, and the baby rescued. She related how her grandfather told of his mother scratching leaves together to make a bed to lay the baby in; and when, footsore and weary (being barefooted), the boys would lie down, their mother would say, to spur them on, "Oh, well, if you lay there the Indians will take you." She asked her grandfather, "Why didn't your mother take you up, and carry you?" "Oh, she couldn't, for there was the baby." Soon after they started on their hundred mile journey through the wilderness, they reached the river where a "good Indian" ferried them across, and told them which way to go to avoid the hostile Indians. They suffered often for food and drink, and once, after they had been a long time without water, they reached a small stream, the mother dipped water up in her hand and gave them drink. Jonathan remembered one house at which they stopped, and were stowed away in the garret, as far as possible from unfriendly Indians. The next day they were given food, and started again on their way. So for days they travelled, until they came to Claverack, Columbia Co., N. Y., where, soon after their arrival, the mother sickened and died from the exposure of the journey.

It is further related by members of the family that the boys were bound out until they were twenty one years of age, and neither knew he had a brother, although they were both brought up in that locality, until the elder came of age, when they met.<sup>1</sup>

The Wyoming Valley, although now within the limits of the state of Pennsylvania, was long claimed by Connecticut. Under her charter, Connecticut claimed the territory extending westward from the western boundary of New York. Five million acres there

<sup>1</sup> That there were but two children, as given in the official report, in David Bixby's family, and not three as thought by Mrs. Corson, is borne out by the ages of the two sons. The elder, aged five years and two months at the time of the massacre, would have been able to travel, but the younger, aged only one year and six months, would have been unable to travel, and was of course the "baby" of Jonathan's narrative. It is quite within possibilities that after the escape another child was born. The date of death of the mother is only approximate. There is but one Millard named in the Census of 1790 as living in Columbia County, though several lived in Albany County, viz., Ozias Millard of Hillsdale. Rutger Bigsby (1869:31), born 1824, stated that there were but two children, "Johnathan and Elias," aged three and four years, and that the mother brought them with great difficulty and many hardships to Hudson.

were sold to the Susquehanna Company, composed of Connecticut men, which issued 1240 shares. These shares had a market value of from \$50 to \$100. Each share called for 2000 acres in the Purchase. Rights in Forty-town, and in Six-Mile, later Capouse, were valued at \$60. The first company of settlers entered the Valley in 1762, but the following year suffered greatly from the Indians. Another company arrived in 1769, and during the succeeding years had not only to protect themselves against the Indians but from white claimants under Pennsylvania titles. Civil war actually existed in the Valley. Jurisdiction over the Purchase was formally assumed by Connecticut in Jan., 1774. The entire settlement was erected into a township called Westmoreland, and attached to Litchfield County. Settlers had been going into the Valley, although it is said that in May, 1772, there were but five women in Wilkesbarre. Forty-town, also called Kingston, was one of the earlier settlements. The townships were generally laid out five miles square.

Although forming the most exposed portion of the frontier, having for neighbors on the north the Tory settlements along the Mohawk and the territory of the Six Nations, and within easy striking distance of the hostile Indian towns, the Wyoming settlers on 1 Aug., 1775, voted, "to join our brethren in America in the common cause of defending our liberty." Two companies were raised in the valley and joined Washington's army, although needed for the defence of the Valley. Late in 1776 Connecticut erected Westmoreland into a county, and a regiment of militia was authorized and organized. The nearest Pennsylvania settlements were sixty miles distant, and unfriendly. Such was the condition during the residence of Elias and David Bixby in the Valley.

In the State Library at Hartford is a volume of "Susquehanna Papers," of which page 147a contains a "Bill of Loses sustained by the Inhabitants of the Town of Westmoreland, from the third day of July, 1778, to May, 1780, taken and carefully examined by the Selectmen of the said Town Pursuant to a Resolve of the Assembly of the State of Connecticut, holden at Hartford the Second Thursday of May, 1780, And is as followeth." The names are arranged alphabetically. From the list of those under B, and in the order as written, is taken the following transcript:



Elizabeth Benedict	
Bether Bixby	36-13
James Bagley	95-15
Mary Bixby	74-08
Capt. Caleb Bates	285-04

The Mary Bixby of the list is unquestionably Mary, widow of David Bixby. The identity of Bether Bixby has proved a puzzle. No such person is known. There is a possibility that Bixby was written for some other name.

The total of the losses listed was £38,308-13-0.

Rutgers Bixby (1869I.31) of Los Angeles, Cal., long possessed the original of the conveyance to his ancestor of the land in Wyoming on which he settled. This valuable document, which is nowhere of record, was lost during the removal to California. Another member of the family remembers having seen it.

When the final settlement of the claim of Connecticut to the Valley was effected, it was provided that the Connecticut settlers who had remained in the Valley should retain their holdings, taking from Pennsylvania a new grant of their land and surrendering their former titles. The territory was organized as Luzerne County and divided into seventeen townships. There is no record of any confirmation of a land grant to any person named Bixby, nor of the surrender of a title by such a one.<sup>1</sup>

In the Trumbull Ms., preserved by the Massachusetts Historical Society, is a volume of Susquehanna Papers, of which No. 82 is a paper signed by John Jenkins, in behalf of a Committee, evidently addressed to the Board of Commissioners appointed by Connecticut, of which Joseph Montgomery was chairman. A partial transcript follows:

"Gentlemen: It is with pleasure we observe in yours of the 19th your readiness to attend to every necessary piece of information we shall be able to give in respect to our settlements in this place<sup>2</sup> . . . until the fatal third of July, 1778, when great numbers of our friends & most valuable inhabitants were slain by the Savages and those of a more savage nature and the whole

<sup>1</sup> Letter of the Secretary of the Department of Internal Affairs for Pennsylvania.

<sup>2</sup> The omitted portion is a history of the settlement to 1778. The statement is made that there were 119 proprietors present in the Valley in 1762, as shown by a list which was enclosed, and 400 proprietors in 1763, as shown by another list which was enclosed, but no longer with these papers. Their numbers increased, until, in 1776, there were about 6,000 souls in the Valley.



country laid waist, our houses and buildings consumed by fire, our household goods and large stocks of cattle, horses, sheep & hogs with our farming and other utensils destroyed and carried off by the enemy, and we, in a most savage and inhuman manner drove out into the country in a state (——) and distress. A scene which must astonish all human nature to describe and we are not able to point out, our old men, women, widows and children were dispersed into all parts of the country destitute of bread, clothing or anything to subsist on, but a large number of the yet remaining and living inhabitants being fired with a fervent zeal for the cause of their country were determined instead of throwing themselves on the clemency of their friends and fellow citizens of the world to surmount all dangers, collected themselves together and on or about the fourth day of August then next, Resolved with the assistance of the Company of brave Continental troops raised here and commanded by Capt. Spalding, coming into this place, retook the country, drove off the savages, regained some trifling part of our effects and the possession of our lands . . . the people who improve here paying rent for the lands that belong to the widow and fatherless that are dispersed into the wide world, they are greatly relieved and comforted . . .

In behalf of the Committee

JOHN JENKINS.

N. B. We herewith transmit a list of the widdows and Orphans."<sup>1</sup>

### 186J

IV. ELIAS BIXBY (*Elias, Jonathan, Joseph*), born at Reading, Conn.; baptized there 27 March, 1748; died 18 Jan., 1827,<sup>2</sup> at Bridgewater, N. Y.; married 28 April, 1771, at Wilton, Conn.,<sup>3</sup> GRACE STERLING, born 9 Oct., 1751,<sup>3</sup> at Bridgeport, Conn., baptized 22 Dec., 1751, at Wilton, died there 6 Sept., 1837, daughter of Samuel<sup>3</sup> and Eleanor (Wescott) Sterling.<sup>4</sup>

*Child:*

1- 1 JOHN, born about 1772; married Polly Munson.

<sup>1</sup> This list of widows and orphans is lost. There is a list, printed as stated above, made up on the 26 Aug., 1778, in which David Bixby's name appears among the killed, and as leaving two children. The letter quoted above seems to have been written about April, 1783.

<sup>2</sup> Records United States Treasury.

<sup>3</sup> Documents filed in pension case.

<sup>4</sup> Sterling Genealogy (1909). She was one of seven children, of whom the youngest, Abigail, married Stephen Moorhouse.

ELIAS BIXBY lived in Redding, Conn., at the outbreak of the Revolution, and enlisted from that place in the army. Eben.<sup>1</sup> Couch was appointed by the town to see to his family. In 1820 he was living in Bridgewater, N. Y., and applied for a pension. He then filed a schedule of his property, which exhibited a total estate of \$384, of which \$300 was the value at cost price of  $9\frac{3}{4}$  acres of land. In 1823 the court valued his estate at \$181, and it was then stated that he was aged seventy four years, was quite infirm, and that his wife was aged seventy three years and was very infirm. He had no children. He had been pensioned 30 June, 1818, but the pension had been discontinued. He himself stated that he would be seventy four years old on the 11 March, 1823,<sup>2</sup> which would bring his birth 11 March, 1749. The difference of one year probably arises from some confusion attending the change from old to new style dating. In 1823 his residence consisted of a one room cottage.

He declared that he enlisted in the spring of 1775 for nine months in a company commanded by Capt. Salmon Reed in Col. Waterbury's regiment of the Connecticut line, and that he re-enlisted in Dec., 1776, for during the war, in a company commanded by Capt. Ezekiel Sanford in Col. Philip Burr Bradley's regiment in the Connecticut line. (State records show that he enlisted 20 Dec., 1776, appointed sergeant 3 March, 1779 and was discharged 20 Dec., 1779.)

He was transferred in 1778 to St. John's company, Col. Meig's regiment, and served one year as a sergeant. He was discharged at Second River, N. J., 29 Dec., 1779. He filed with his application a certificate signed by Capt. John St. John in which he is described as a sergeant, and calling for a gun, bayonet, cartridge-box and belt. He also filed an order: "Permit Sergeant Bigsbie to pass to the state of Connecticut and return December 23, 1779 Phil B. Bradley Colonel Comd." Also his appointment as second sergeant in Capt. St. John's company, 3d Connecticut regiment at Redding, 1 Feb., 1779.

His widow was also pensioned, receiving \$120 per annum. She made application 29 Sept., 1836. She then lived at Bridgeport,

<sup>1</sup> Documents filed in pension case.

<sup>2</sup> In declaration of 10 April, 1818, he gave his age as sixty nine, which agrees with the baptismal record.

Conn. She remembered that her husband told her of being appointed orderly sergeant, and his having at first refused to take the position, as it involved so much writing. He was a sergeant at the storming of Stony Point, and was obliged to carry a number of canteens, so as to supply the soldiers with liquor. He at first drew a pension of \$96, which was discontinued, as he had more property then than the law allowed a pensioner to possess, but was afterward restored. She gave the date of his death, stated that he was born in 1750 and that she was born October, 1751, she further stated she was married at Wilton, and enclosed a certificate from the register showing the marriage. At time of her husband's enlistment they were living at Redding, but after the war removed to Bridgewater, N. Y. Since his death she had lived at various places, Bridgewater,<sup>1</sup> Wilton and Bridgeport.

Thaddeus Sterling testified he was a brother to Grace, wife of Elias Bixby, and related the circumstances of the latter's enlistment, and that Elias and Grace were married at his father's house in Wilton. Sarah Fox of Wilton, a daughter of a sister of Grace, also testified in 1836, as did also Ellen Hull, another niece by the mother's side. John M. Bixby is named as a grandson of Elias, who in 1828 had no children living.

A weekly return for St. John's company is filed in this pension case.

From 1787 to 1789 "Grace Bigsbee" had a running account with the Sterling store in Wilton. In the census of 1790 Gracy Bigsby, erroneously styled a widow, is enumerated as living in the Stamford-Norwalk district, without other members in her family.

Elias Bixby made a will 17 June, 1816, by which all his estate was bequeathed to his wife Grace. This will was presented for probate 30 March, 1830, at which time it appeared that the heir at law of the deceased was John M. Bixby (186J1.2).<sup>2</sup> His widow in her pension declaration stated Elias Bixby died of "dropsy, consumption and had a schrofulus in his head."

<sup>1</sup> There is recorded with Chenango Co. (N. Y.) deeds, a deed of Ella and Olive Prindle of Brookfield in that county, to Elias Bixby of the same place, conveying 35 acres in Brookfield, 23 Oct., 1799. On the 12 March, 1804, Elias Bixby, yeoman, of Brookfield, conveyed 35 acres there to Joel Ives of Brookfield (*Deeds*, F. 188: F. 354). Brookfield is now a part of Madison County, which was set up in 1808. Bridgewater, in Oneida Co., is immediately north of Brookfield.

<sup>2</sup> Records of the Surrogate's Court, Oneida Co., N. Y. His estate was small.

## 186K

IV. MEHITABLE BIXBY (*Elias, Jonathan, Joseph*), born probably about 1750, and at Fairfield, Conn.; married 15 Nov., 1770, at Redding, Conn.,<sup>1</sup> NATHAN COLEY, who died 18 April, 1781.<sup>2</sup> He was a private in Col. Waterbury's regiment, from which organization he was discharged 15 Oct., 1775. He enlisted 19 April, 1777, in the company commanded by Capt. Sanford, 5th Regiment, Conn. line, and was promoted corporal 1 Nov., 1778. He was sergeant 1 April, 1780, until 17 April, 1781. Between those enlistments he had served from 21 June, 1776, to 11 Jan., 1777, as corporal, in Bradley's battalion.<sup>3</sup>

Mehitable (Bixby) Coley married, second, 10 Aug., 1782, Abijah Parsons. Her name at the time of the second marriage is given as Mabel.

*Children:*<sup>3</sup>

- 1 ABIGAIL COLEY, baptized 12 April 1772; married 22 Oct., 1794, Zachariah Stevens.

*Children:*

1. Laura Stevens.
2. Maria Stevens.

- 2 ZALMON COLEY, baptized 9 April, 1775.

- 3 NATHAN COLEY, baptized 26 April, 1778; died 14 Oct., 1831, at New Haven, Conn.; married 30 March, 1800, Prudence Canfield.

By second marriage:

- 4 POLLY PARSONS, born 9 Oct., 1783.

<sup>1</sup> Redding records, where her name appears as Mabel.

<sup>2</sup> Connecticut Men in the Revolution.

<sup>3</sup> Information of James E. Coley, Hampden, Conn.







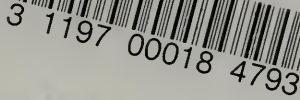












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